

THE ESSENCE OF SRIMADBHAGAVATA

ಹರಿಃ ಸರ್ವೋತ್ತಮ

ವಾಯುಃ ಜೀವೋತ್ತಮ



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A Small Tribute to one of the Greatest Yati of 21st Century

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ತಪಃ ಸ್ವಾಧ್ಯಾಯಶುಶ್ರೂಷಾ ಕೃಷ್ಣಪೂಜಾರತಂ ಮುನಿಮ್ |
ವಿಶ್ವೇಶಮಿಷ್ಠದಂ ವಂದೇ ಪರಿವ್ರಾಟ್ ಚಕ್ರವರ್ತಿನಮ್ ||

PREFACE

Srimad Bhagavata is one of the Puranas written by Supreme Lord Vedavyasa himself. This work beautifully not only describes the stories of Lord Vishnu's various incarnations, but also describes numerous stories of his true devotees. The narration has been done in such an amazing manner that one who reads it again and again, will undoubtedly develop immense devotion in God and also get inspired to implement various moralities showcased, in everyday life to make it an effective one! Most of our gurus right from **Vishwaguru Acharya Madhwa** has written their works on this scripture to throw the light on various in-depth aspects, to bless the common people.

Fondly known as 'Pejavara swamiji', **Paramapoojya Vishweshwara Teertha Swamiji** of Pejavara mutt, Udupi who himself was not only an encyclopedia of spiritual knowledge but also a spiritual guide who had implemented all those moral values in his life, has been a very big inspirational personality to many people like me! I was very fortunate to have got his blessings and experience his kindness on me, in multiple occasions. Referring to the book which is the **collection of discourses** on Srimad Bhagavata given by **His Holiness Pejavara swamiji** during his third Paryaya, I've tried to very briefly summarise the essence of this great scripture 'Srimad Bhagavata' according to my understanding, with the intention of introducing it to several of my friends, relatives and our community who have very little time to read in depth about these scriptures. I've tried my best to compile the maximum information in this small work about this giant purana, so that reading these would help one to develop more interest in the path of spiritual knowledge.

Only with the special blessings of my guru **Raghavendra Gurusarvabhoumaru**, i got this opportunity of doing a small seva to Lord Krishna and offer it at his feet, through my beloved Pejavara Swamiji. I would like to thank my parents, relatives, friends and everyone who have supported me in this small venture for their valuable support. Also special thanks to my friend Karthik Joshi for beautifully designing the cover pages. My effort is fulfilled if it is read and spread to many, so that it will inspire me to introduce some more works in the coming days.

Let Sri Hari Vayu Gurugalu be pleased with this seva and bless us all.

I'll be concluding this note with the famous words of Pejavara swamiji, which he would regularly mention in his spiritual discourses -

“ Everything in this world : Of the God, For the God, By the God! ”

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17-12-2020

Sharvari Samvatsara

Margashira Shukla Trutiya

| THE GREATNESS OF SRIMADBHAGAVATA |

| “ಪಿಬತ ಭಾಗವತಂ ರಸಮಾಲಯಂ” |

The mythology - **Srimad Bhagavata** is the work of **supreme Lord Vedavyasa** himself, which has been **highly upheld** as : The king of Puranas, meaning of the Brahmasutras, Gayatribhashya, Collection of the meanings of all the Vedas and the summary of all the Puranas! In the numbering, it is the **eighteenth** and the ultimate work written by Lord Vedavyasa. From this perspective also, it's importance is a noted one - “ಅಂತೇ ಸಿದ್ಧಸ್ತು ಸಿದ್ಧಾಂತಃ..!! “

Also, this work Srimad Bhagavata has got another name called ‘ಜಯ’ or win, as the first letter of first shloka starts with the letter ‘ಜ’ and the last letter of the ultimate shloka ends with ‘ಯ’. This indicates that this scripture is a gateway for a person to **get rid off** this samsara and attain enlightenment. **King Parikshit** himself is a best example for this, as he attained salvation after hearing this scripture. Lord Vedavyasa who is none other than **Lord Vishnu** himself who is only capable of granting us enlightenment, is the author as well as the counterfeit of this scripture while **Sri Shukamuni** who is an incarnation of Lord Shiva who is the god of death himself, has narrated this to King Parikshit. That is why, this scripture has gained such importance! All our gurus right from **Vishwaguru Acharya Madhwa** has written their works on this scripture to bless the common people.

This scripture mainly describes **various incarnations** of supreme Lord Vishnu highlighting his immense kindness on his true devotees and also numerous stories of his **truest devotees**. The amazing meanings of each and every shloka itself is compared to the flooding of holy River Ganga. Such is the **level of Sanctity** possessed by this scripture! Hearing this scripture itself is the main fruit of this precious life. Even hearing or telling or reading this scripture for a few times in our lives itself has got immense importance! Chanting a shloka or a half shloka or even a word of this scripture grants us the fruits equal to donating thousands of cows! Lord Vedavyasa himself has described the greatness of this work - Reading this scripture itself is considered as most supreme thing, when compared to doing other spiritual deeds, even chanting or hearing a single word of this purana grants us infinite virtue, such is the unparallel greatness of this scripture!

By understanding all this, let us have a **very brief look** into this scripture to obtain the blessings of supreme Lord Krishna!

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॥ ಶ್ರೀಮದ್ಭಗವತ ಆದ್ಯಂತ ಶ್ಲೋಕಾಃ ॥

ಜನ್ಮಾದ್ಯಸ್ಯ ಯತೋನ್ವಯಾದಿತರತಶ್ಚಾರ್ಥೇಷ್ವಭಿಜ್ಞಃ ಸ್ವರಾಟ್ |
ತೇನೇ ಬ್ರಹ್ಮ ಹೃದಾಯ ಆದಿಕವಯೇ ಮುಹ್ಯಂತಿ ಯಂ ಸೂರಯಃ ||
ತೇಜೋವಾರಿಮೃದಾಂ ಯಥಾ ವಿನಿಮಯೋ ಯತ್ರ ತ್ರಿಸರ್ಗೋ ಮೃಷಾ |
ಧಾಮ್ನಾ ಸ್ವೇನ ಸದಾ ನಿರಸ್ತಕುಹಕಂ ಸತ್ತ್ಯಂ ಪರಂ ಧೀಮಹಿ ||



ಓಂ ಉಪಚಿತನವಶಕ್ತಿಭಿಃ ಸ್ವಆತ್ಮನ್ಯುಪರಚಿತ ಸ್ಥಿರಜಂಗಮಪಾಲನಾಯ |
ಭಗವತೇ ಉಪಲಬ್ಧಿಮಾತ್ರಧಾಮ್ನೇ ಸುರಖುಷಭಾಯ ನಮಃ ಸನಾತನಾಯ ||

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| PRATHAMA SKANDA |

|| SANDESHA - 1 ||

| SRI KRISHNA THE CHARIOTEER ! |

During the **Kurukshetra war** between the Pandavas and the Kouravas, everyday after the war, Sri Krishna would first step down from the chariot and then Arjuna would step down . But on the **18th day**, when the war ended, Sri Krishna while sitting in the chariot, ordered Arjuna to first step down from the same. Arjuna was astonished by this gesture of Sri Krishna, however without further questioning him, he got off the chariot. As soon as Sri Krishna got off the chariot, the chariot immediately caught fire and within few seconds, it burnt into the ashes. Shocked by this, **Arjuna** was amazed by seeing the Sarvagnatva, Sarvapaalakatva and other qualities of **Sri Krishna**.

Sri Krishna then explained "Arjuna, look if you had been in the chariot after my exit, you would have also been burnt alive in these flames. The chariot should have been burnt earlier itself, thanks to the **fierce astras** by numerous uncomarable warriors including **Bheeshmacharya and Dronacharya**! It was protected till now only because of my presence. That's why I asked you to get down before me, today."

This incident gives a wonderful message to the mankind : **Sarvottama Sri Krishna**, should be installed and worshipped as the charioteer of this **Nation's chariot**, for its well being. Nation cannot survive with the absence of Sri Krishna. Similarly, we must completely surrender ourselves at the feet of Lord Krishna and install him as a charioteer to our **life's chariot**, so that he completely takes the responsibility of our well being, helps us to face the challenges and guides us in the right path. We must involve ourselves in doing **good deeds, serving the society, earn the knowledge of God** through our ancient holy scriptures like Ramayana, Mahabharata, Srimad Bhagavata etc. and purify our inner self, to seek the complete blessings of Lord Krishna. In this manner, we can make our lives a beautiful and satisfied one.

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|| SANDESHA - 2 ||

| KUNTIDEVI'S HEARTFUL PRAYERS |

After the death of Duryodhana and all other Kouravas, Sri Krishna consoled all the grief stricken Pandavas and appointed **Yudhishtira** as the king to the throne of Hastinapura. When he was just about to start his journey towards Dwaraka, Uttaradevi, the wife of Abhimanyu came running towards him and pleaded him to rescue the ultimate offspring of Pandavas which was inside her womb, from the fierce **Brahmastra** of Ashwattamacharya. Sri Krishna with his supernatural and unimaginable powers protected the child inside her womb and blessed Uttaradevi. On seeing this kindful act of Lord Krishna, **Kuntidevi** offered her immense prayers to him, who had taken the complete responsibility of protecting the Pandavas. She prays :

ವಿಪದಃ ಸಂತು ನಃ ಶಶ್ವತ್ತತ್ರ ತತ್ರ ಜಗತ್ಪತೇ | ಭವತೋ ದರ್ಶನಂ ಯತ್ಸ್ಯಾದಪುನರ್ಭವ ದರ್ಶನಮ್ ||

O lord! please give me more and more **difficulties**, which will again and again lead to remember your amazing qualities and provides an opportunity to have your darshan! The difficult situations which will help us to remember you is much more greater than those good situations which forces us to forget you!

The proudest mother of Pandavas, Kuntidevi had faced difficulties throughout her life time, right from her childhood. Now, inspite of Sri Krishna granting her with all the comfortness, by destroying the cruel

Kouravas and throning the Pandavas to administer the Kingdom, Kuntidevi begs him to give her more difficulties. Such is the greatness and bhakti level of Kuntidevi!

Coming to our lives, even though throughout our **lifetime**, we would be living with all the comfortness and happiness, we often tend to forget and thank the Lord for his infinite kindness and even curse him when we are forced to face the difficulties!

A stone faces hundreds and thousands of punches from the sculpturor, before becoming a beautiful idol, which later gets worshipped in the form of a god in a temple. Similarly **God** who is the **creator, sculptor and destroyer** of this universe, gives various good and difficult situations in our lives, depending on our ancient Karmas, to make us a good, cultured and matured **human being**. Hence, irrespective of the situations, let it be happiness or sadness, one should always surrender at the feet of the Lord and remember him always with the sole purpose of obtaining his **blessings**. By doing so, god grants us the strength to face each and every situation of our life with much more confidence and thereby lead a life filled with happiness. Let Sri Krishna always be pleased and bless us all.

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|| SANDESHA - 3 ||

| LIFE IS TOO SHORT ! |

Even after the death of all his beloved sons, Drutarashtra, the father of Kouravas, instead of developing detachment towards this impermanent world and developing more Bhakti towards the Sarvottama **Lord Krishna**, as usual indulged himself in all the worldly pleasures. Astonished by this act of his elder brother, **Vidura** explained some valuable preachings to him. " O brother, wake up! Even at your final stages of your life, where the death is attacking you from all the sides, you are still indulged in these worldly pleasures. Enough of these temporary pleasures! Immediately detach yourself from all these and move towards the forest to do the penance to obtain the lotus feet of the Lord."

A beautiful **message** is highlighted here. Every year when our birthday and various festivals like Ugadi, Deepavali etc. arrives, we blindly celebrate them in a grand manner without even giving a thought that year by year, we would be getting closer and closer to our death. A firefly on seeing a camp fire gets attracted towards it and goes near it. Initially that insect enjoys the experience of warmth near the fire , so with the purpose of getting the same happiness again and again, the firefly keeps on flying around the fire. If suddenly a strong wind blows, the insect catches fire and dies. Our present life style is similar to this position of the firefly. Day and night, we are striving hard and running behind these worldly matters to get this **temporary happiness**. In this cycle of blindly searching for happiness, we are failing to notice the death that is following us through various ways to attack us.

Hence, without delaying, one must try to understand the main purpose of this beautiful life from our various holy scriptures like Mahabharata, Ramayana, various preachings of our Gurus right from Acharya Madhwa and implement those as much as possible in our daily lives. Each and every action of our life itself should become a **yagna**, an offering at the lotus feet of the Lord. We must earn the knowledge of God, remember and praise the greatness of the Lord at each and every aspect of our life, serve the society as a seva of the Lord, without any expectations and make this life a effective and satisfied one.

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|| SANDESHA - 4 ||

| THE RULING OF KING PARIKSHIT ! |

Lord Krishna, who was showing his immense kindness on his truest devotees, the Pandavas, left to his abode of Vaikunta after finishing his incarnation's purpose of destroying

all the evil powers and rescuing all the good people. On learning this, all the **Pandavas** realised that their incarnations also is coming to an end. After throning Arjuna's grandson **Parikshit** as the king, Dharmaraja and all the Pandavas left to the Mahaprasthanas. King Parikshit, who was a **true devotee** of supreme Lord Narayana himself, was ruling the kingdom gloriously. One day, he got to hear about a bad news that **evil Kali** had entered his kingdom. Immediately on hearing this, King Parikshit ascended his chariot and started searching for Kali. On his way, he saw a **strange scene** : He saw a **Taurus, a cow and a Shudra**. The taurus which had lost its three legs, was shivering and standing only on its one foot! The cow which had lost his calf, was crying immensely. The Shudra was holding a sword in his hand and was attacking the taurus to kill it! This itself is the scene of **Kaliyuga**. Kali is present where a cow is tortured and killed without any mercy! That Taurus which was seen by King Parikshit itself is the '**Dharmadevate**'! Even today, the Dharma is standing only on a single leg called 'Truth'. Like how the Shudra was attacking the Taurus, this **mother Earth** is continuously being attacked by various kinds of evil persons, even today! We must always show our gratitude to mother Earth, who is showing immense kindness on all of us everyday.

On seeing this terrible scene, King Parikshit astonishingly asked the Taurus, the reason for this sorrowfulness. The Taurus answered in a **puzzled way** - "O King, in this world, there is no single reason for my sorrow! Some blame God for this, some others blame luck and ignorance for this! So, you only decide the reason for my sorrowfulness." On hearing this, King Parikshit started thinking - "For everything, supreme **Lord Vishnu** is solely responsible! There are four legs for Dharma, namely - **Penance, Shoucha, kindness(Daye) and Truth**. Doing our duties like offering prayers to God, doing his pooja, meditating on him, etc. sincerely itself is penance. Possessing a clean mind and body always, itself is Shoucha. Showing kindness on all the animals itself is Daye. Speaking honestly always itself is the truth! In contrast to this, there are four legs of Adharma namely **Ego, Ashoucha, cruelty and lies** which are always trying to destroy the legs of Dharma. Only truth has been left now! This is the main reason for the sorrowfulness of this Taurus called 'Dharma'. "

Later, on seeing the Kali, when King Parikshit fiercely attacked him to suppress him, **Kali surrendered** at his feet and pleaded him not to do so and further asked him to give few places for his presence so that he would not enter his entire kingdom. Kind hearted king Parikshit granted him four places - "ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿತಸ್ತದಾ ತಸ್ಮೈ ಸ್ಥಾನಾನಿ ಕಲಯೇ ದದೌ..!! You can reside in these **four places** : The place various kinds of **gambling** takes place, the place where **Alcohol** is consumed, the place where **violence** occurs and the places where **evil women** resides!" When Kali was not satisfied by all these, finally King Parikshit granted him another place where **excess Gold** resides! By understanding all these places where evil Kali's special presence is there, we must try to avoid them by following the path of Dharma, to make this life an effective one!

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|| SANDESHA - 5 ||

| THE INFLUENCE OF KALI ON KING PARIKSHIT ! |

King Parikshit who continued ruling the kingdom gloriously after initially resisting the influence of the evil Kali, one day went to a forest with the intention of hunting. After wandering around in the forest for a very long time, Parikshit who got **immense thirst** went in search of water and found the ashrama of **Shamika**

rishi. The rishi who was deeply involved in the penance had reached the **asymptotic state**. King Parikshit because of the influence of Kali, developed ignorance and failed to realise about this state of the rishi. As a result, he furiously unknowingly garlanded a **dead snake** on the neck of the rishi and went away back to his palace disappointedly.

The rishi who was unaware of all this, had continued his penance. His son named **Shrungi**, who was not there when all this happened, on returning to his ashrama saw a dead snake on his father and got very angered. After learning that King Parikshit himself was responsible for this, Shrungi rishi who could not withstand the disrespect showed to his father, **furiously cursed** him - “ ಇತೋ ಲಂಘಿತಮರ್ಯಾದಂ ತಕ್ಷಕಃ ಸಪ್ತಮೇಽಹನಿ..! Let King Parikshit, who has highly betrayed my father be killed by a snake named ‘**Takshaka**’, on the **seventh day** from today!” After cursing the king, this rishi who was still a small boy, started crying immensely. Shamika rishi who got back to his senses after his deep meditation, removed the dead snake which was hanging on him and saw his son crying. After consoling him and enquiring about all the earlier happenings, the rishi got very depressed on learning that his son had cursed the king himself.

Like everyone else who would have praised their children for giving such punishment, the kind hearted rishi instead **scolded** his son - “My son, just for a small mistake done by the king, why did you curse him so terribly? He is the King who always wishes for the welfare of his citizens, but you have done a huge mistake by cursing him to get his death!” Immediately, the rishi sent a word to the king stating that he would die the seventh day from this day. Meanwhile, King Parikshit who **realised his mistake** after reaching his palace, immensely **repented** for the same and started cursing himself - “Because of the ego of being a king, all these bad incidents happened! So, to get rid off this attachment, i’ll be sacrificing everything! Let all my kingdom, army and all the wealth get destroyed by the cursing of the rishi! Let this kind of bad thought never come to me in the future!” At the same time, he got the message of his death sent by Shamika rishi. On hearing this, the king instead of getting tensed, **remained calm** and thought that this was the right punishment for his mistake. Such was the greatness of King Parikshita!

From these incidents, we can get the following message - One must never disobey a wise person. Even if that person neglects it, Kind hearted supreme God Narayana never withstands such ignorance when it is happened to his true devotees. By understanding this immense kindness of God on his devotees, we must surrender to him to obtain his blessings!

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|| SANDESHA - 6 ||

| THE ARRIVAL OF SRI SHUKAMUNI ! |

On learning about the curse he had received from Shrungi rishi for disrespecting his father Shameeka rishi, **King Parikshita** happily accepted the same and after sacrificing everything, he went near the **shore of river Ganga**. All the wise men who had the knowledge about Parikshit’s immense sacrificing and kind nature, immediately came near him with the intention of blessing him. To mention a few of them who had come there : **Atri rishi, Vasishta rishi, Bhrgu rishi, Vishwamitra rishi, Lord Parashurama, Lord Vedavyasa, Narada maharshi, etc.** On seeing all of them together, King Parikshit thought that his life became an effective one and after offering his pranams, he asked them devotedly - “ದ್ವಿಜೋಪಸೃಷ್ಟಃ ಕುಹಕಸ್ತಕ್ಷಕೋ ವಾ..!! O wise men, i’m really blessed to see all of you here! I’m your sincere servant. Even if i lose all the wealth and everything or my death itself occurs as per the curse of the rishi, i’m not worried! I request you

all to sing the prayers praising the greatness of supreme Lord Narayana!" On seeing this greatness of the king, all the devatas in the heaven, showered flowers on him and blessed him.

Later when Parikshita asked all the wise men to tell him what should be compulsorily done by a person when he reaches the time of death, **Sri Shukamuni** who was the incarnation of **Lord Shiva** himself and also the son of Lord Vedavyasa, arrived there unexpectedly! On seeing this, all the wise men got delighted and offered their pranams to him. After receiving the hospitality of King Parikshit, Sri Shukamuni who had got **special presence of Lord Vayu** in him, sat in an upper position. The King who had become much more happier on seeing the Shukamuni, **questioned** him - "ಯಚ್ಛ್ರೋತವ್ಯಮಥೋ ಜಾಪ್ಯಂ ಯತ್ಕರ್ತವ್ಯಂ ನೃಭಿಃ ಸದಾ...!! O muni, please tell me what should be done by a person who is reaching his death? About what should he hear, think, pray? What should be sacrificed by him? Please explain to me in detail!" Kind hearted Sri Shukamuni who generally never stays in one place, with the intention of blessing King Parikshit, stayed there for **seven days** and gave him the **amazing unparalleled preachings** of supreme Lord Vishnu, which he had received from his father Lord Vedavyasa himself! These preachings itself is the purana of '**Srimad Bhagavata**'!

Lord Vedavyasa tells the reason for the arrival of Sri Shukamuni : When Parikshit was in the womb of his mother Uttaradevi, Lord Shiva who had incarnated as **Ashwathama**, had tried to kill him by using the powerful Brahmastra! He had got such an **evil mind** that time, because of drinking the **milk** which was given by the **incarnation of Kali** himself, Duryodhana. Later after realising his mistake, Ashwathama with the intention of overcoming the same again incarnated as the **son of Lord Vedavyasa** and drank the **Amrita** of Bhagavata itself from him! As a result, now he had got a **very good mind** of transferring his knowledge to the king Parikshit. Because of this, even though he had got no invitation from the king, Shukamuni came to the place of Parikshit and gave his preachings to him about the beautiful scripture of Srimad Bhagavata written by Lord Vedavyasa himself!

From all these incidents, we can get some **wonderful messages** - By understanding the sacrificing and mistake overcoming **nature** of King Parikshit, we must learn to overcome our mistakes when they are done either knowingly or unknowingly and try to be more cautious in the future. Also by describing the reason for arrival of Sri Shukamuni, Lord Vedavyasa has indicated the importance of kind of food we take and also the person from whom we get the same. By understanding all this, we must try to implement these moral values in our life to get the blessings of God!

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| DWITIYA SKANDA |

|| SANDESHA - 7 ||

| THE PURPOSE OF HUMAN LIFE ! |

Son of **Lord Vishnu**, Brahmadeva with the blessings and orders by his father, created 83,99,999 creatures in this Universe, including various varieties of Animals, Birds, Trees, plants, insects etc. However, not satisfied by this, he created the **Human beings** and then felt satisfied. We can see most of the common activities between we humans and other creatures like food, sleep, sensual pleasures etc. So what makes a human different from other creatures? The ability to think and acquire the "**knowledge of God**" makes a human the greatest among the 84,00,000 creatures!

If enjoying the **worldly pleasures** itself was the purpose of this precious life, then why should one be born as a human? Animals, trees, plants etc. also breathe, take food, reproduce, sleep and do other activities within their limits. If we humans also involve ourselves only in these worldly pleasures, then what will be the difference between us and them? One who spends his entire lifetime by involving himself only

in worldly pleasures, without remembering and thanking the God for his blessings and kindness throughout, his life itself is considered as a wasted one. Even animals like dog, cow, elephant etc show their gratitude by showering their love towards us, if we feed them for few days. However, we humans have become even worse than these creatures, by forgetting to show our **gratitude** towards God.

By developing various good qualities like devotion towards God, trying to see the greatness of him in each and every aspect of our life, serving the society without any expectations, being kind to other creatures such as animals, trees etc. we can make this auspicious and precious life, a **meaningful** one. By making various spiritual activities like chanting the name of the lord, hearing his greatness as explained in Vedas and other ancient scriptures, doing his pooja, and completely surrendering at his feet etc., as a part and parcel of our daily lives, we can obtain the **blessings of God**, thereby get rid off all the sins and attain salvation. So, one must understand this **truthness** of life at the earliest, before it gets wasted, and get involved himself in the right path.

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|| SANDESHA - 8 ||

| KNOWLEDGE OF THE VISHWATMA ! |

Sarvottama **Lord Narayana** himself is solely responsible for the creation, destruction and all other activities of this universe. Earning the knowledge of the greatness and amazing activities of the lord, plays a vital role in one's life to develop immense devotion towards the god. In this aspect, Srimad Bhagavata has beautifully described the process of creation. With the sole purpose of highlighting the kindness and other amazing unparallel qualities of the god, the infinite Vedas, Puranas, various ancient scriptures and other works have beautifully explained the creation of this universe, human body etc. from the **panchabhootas** namely fire, water, earth, space and air. On clearly learning about this creation and other related activities being performed independently by the lord, who does all these without any expectations from our side but with the sole purpose of blessing us, it will be possible for us to develop more devotion towards him !

Through various organs of the lord, the devatas were born. From this sluggish nature, the Mahat-tatva, from this the Ahankara-tatva, from this the Panchabhootas, sensory organs etc. were created. In this manner, the infinite process of creation continues. Only with the will power of the lord, all these activities can take place. Without the presence of the soul, the body is dead. Similarly, without the presence of god, the existence of universe is impossible. Eeshavasyopanishith clearly describes this : ಈಶಾವಾಸ್ಯಮಿದಂ ಸರ್ವಂ ಯತ್ಕಿಂಚ ಜಗತ್ಯಾಂ ಜಗತ್...!! Even though it appears that all the worldly activities are happening on its own, as a result of various actions of the infinite living and non living beings, without the presence of god in each and every atom of this universe, it is not at all possible for all these activities to take place! In the absence of Electricity, even huge machinaries having the capacity to do amazing tasks stand still. Similarly, without the influence of god, not even a grass stick can move, even in the presence of wind blow. Without the **omnipresence** of the lord, it is next to impossible for any activity to take place in this universe. So one must understand this universal truth and surrender at the lotus feet of the god to obtain his blessings.

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|| SANDESHA - 9 ||

| PURPOSE OF LORD VISHNU'S INCARNATION ! |

Each and every element of the satchidananda figure, Sarvottama, Sarvavyapta **Lord Vishnu** is capable of doing all activities as per his wish, irrespective of the situations. Even though he possess such an unparallel capacity, Lord Narayana with the sole purpose of **blessing** his disciples from time to time, incarnated several times in this holy land of Bharata. Srimad Bhagavata beautifully describes around **25 incarnations** of Lord Sri hari. **Vishwaguru Acharya Madhwa** has highly mentioned the importance of knowing the proper purpose of lord's incarnation, in his works. So we'll just have a brief look at them:

- With the sole purpose of **spreading** the right knowledge :

1) Kapila avatar 2) Dattatreya avatar 3) Narayana avatar 4) Rushabha avatar
5) Hayagreeva avatar 6) Mahidasa avatar 7) Vedavyasa avatar

- With the sole purpose of **destroying** evil powers :

8) Matsya avatar 9) Varaha avatar 10) Yagnya avatar 11) Narasimha avatar
12) Parashurama avatar 13) Kalki avatar

- With the sole purpose of **blessing** his closest devotees, the Devatas :

14) Koorma avatar 15) Dhanvantari avatar 16) Vishnu avatar

- With the sole purpose of **blessing** his other devotees :

17) Vaasudeva avatar 18) Sri Hari avatar 19) Vamana avatar

- Special incarnations (avesha avatars) :

20) Nara 21) King Pruthu

- With the purpose of **spreading** the knowledge and **displaying** his strength :

22) Rajarajeshwara avatar

- With the special purpose of **creating** an illusion and spreading the knowledge :

23) Buddha avatar

- With the purpose of **destroying** the evil powers and **spreading** the right knowledge :

24) Rama avatar 25) Krishna avatar

Let Sri Bhagavata pratipadya Lord Krishna be pleased with this and bless us all.

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|| SANDESHA - 10 ||

| SALVATION - THE MOST DESIRED STATE ?! |

Moksha(Salvation) is nothing but the ability of expressing the **real nature**. The concept of Moksha has been beautifully described by **Lord Vedavyasa**, in this Bhagavata. It can be understood clearly by looking at this example : Assume that we have a very clean, bright **white cloth**. When mud or some other dirt falls on

it, the cloth temporarily loses its cleanliness and becomes dirty. In generally we say that the cloth has become dirty, but in reality the cloth is basically a cleaned one, but the dust attached to it has made it appear as a dirty one. If this cloth is left in the same dirty position, more and more dust accumulates from time to time and makes it look even more worser. But if the cloth is washed at the early stage of its dirtiness itself, it again regains its original form.

The situation of the **jeeva** is similar to that of a clean, bright white cloth. Being a **reflection** of Sarvottama, Swaramana Lord Paramatma, jeevaatma also **possesses** all the infinite qualities of the lord, depending on its aptitude. However, being completely bound by the influence of the five basic elements of this universe, the **panchabhootas**, an illusion has been created to such an extent that it has made us to blindly believe that our various expressions like love, hate, happiness, grieveness etc. itself as a part and parcel of our swaroopa(real nature). Hence, unnecessarily everyday we are falling deeper and deeper in this jail of ocean of samsara by developing attachment towards this materialistic world! As a result, we are unable to experience our true nature.

Hence, by properly understanding this concept of Moksha, which is **residing inside ourselves** itself and not anywhere else, one can obtain the proper knowledge of the god. To get rid off our unrealistic nature and obtain the realistic nature, we must dive and swim in the ocean of knowledge of the **God**, who is the only one who has the ultimate capacity of **jailing or reliving us**, from this ocean of samsara. As Sri Krishna has explained in **Gita**, hundreds and thousands of births are required for a sadhaka, to obtain the complete knowledge of god, according to his aptitude. Therefore, a sadhaka, who wants to get rid off this samsara, without wasting much time should start to follow the path shown by our gurus and move forward in that direction to obtain the complete blessings of the Lord.

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| TRUTEEYA SKANDA |

|| SANDESHA - 11 ||

| LORD KAMALANABHA - THE FLAWLESS ONE ! |

We have learnt in our previous sandeshas' that **God** himself is solely, independently responsible for creating this universe. Now, a question may arise - "If God has created this universe using the **panchabhootas**, then he also should be having various **naturistic qualities**, like birth, death etc. If so, then he too will be experiencing all the feelings like anger, love, hate, deficiency etc. If he is also possessing all these naturistic qualities like us, then what is the difference between us and him? how can he be **capable** of helping us to get rid off this samsara ?"

Srimad Bhagavata has answered to this question, in a beautiful manner - The main difference between us and the God is that he is completely independent, but we are completely dependent. For our each and every action, in one or the other way, we are always dependent on not only god, but also on others. But **Lord Kamalanabha** (Narayana) who is omnipresent, has the capacity to do anything and everything, independently as per his wish! Even though he does all the actions by **residing** in each and **every atom** of this universe, he remains unattached to any of the naturistic qualities, unlike us who get attached to those qualities, in our every actions.

Much clarity can be obtained by looking at this **example** - In a jail, not only the culprits but also the officers will be there. However, the culprits would be experiencing the sadness, while the officers doing

their duty of looking after them, would remain happy, independent of the situation of the culprits. Similarly, in our daily lives, we would be experiencing this situation. Like a culprit who is experiencing sadness as a result of his bad action, we **jeevas** experience various feelings according to their actions. Like an officer, our Supreme officer god will always be independent of any actions or feelings of the infinite souls.

We can clearly differentiate between the qualities which we possess and which we do not. Depending on this, our every action is carried out. Ultimately, we jeevas, who are entirely dependent on God, experience the results of our actions, as per **our efforts, aptitude and God's blessings**. The **Supreme God**, who possess all the amazing, unparallel qualities like **supremacy, independence, omnipresence** etc., himself being the **charioteer** of this universe, independent of results of any actions of any creatures, remains **flawless** always! Thus, by understanding **our inferiority** in front of the greatness of the God, we must completely surrender at his lotus feet to obtain his blessings, and thereby obtain the capacity to become independent from our unrealistic nature.

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|| SANDESHA - 12 ||

| OPEN YOUR EYES - SEE THE GOD IN YOUR INNER SELF ! |

After describing the **flawness** and other amazing qualities of the Lord Narayana, Srimad Bhagavata has described how lord Vishnu started his creation, from scratch. During the ultimate flood period (Pralaya kaala), **Lord Narayana** swallowed this huge universe itself! As a result, this **universe** took a subtle form and then came out of the **navel** of the lord Vishnu, in the form of blooming **lotus** flower. **Lord Brahma** erected from this lotus and through his four faces, he started searching for his creator, everywhere. He even searched for his father, deep inside the duct of the flower. But unfortunately, he couldn't find his creator anywhere. Then he heard two words "**Meditate, meditate!**" from a bodiless voice. Then lord Brahmadeva started to meditate and finally he succeeded to see his creator, Lord Srihari, inside himself! He rejoiced in joy and gave his ultimate conclusion - "The **belief** of people that God cannot be seen, is completely false!"

This statement of lord Brahma, was not given instantly, but was given after reviewing it. He started questioning - "From where did Lotus arise? From where did water flow? How did I came out of this lotus? Who is my father?" By continuous **intriguation** about the lotus , he could find Lord Vishnu in his heart lotus itself! While Lord Narayana has been carrying lord Brahma in his navel, lord Brahma is carrying the supreme Lord Narayana, in his heart itself! This action of Omniscient lord Brahma gives us a wonderful message - We also have the desire to see the god. We start searching for him, by seeing this outer world. But **unfortunately** we can only see this beautiful world, but not its creator, the God. So we must understand this universal truth and try to see the god inside ourselves.

As described by our gurus and other wise men (Aparoksha gnanis) - ಅಂತರಂಗದಲ್ಲಿ ಹರಿಯ ಕಾಣದವ...ಹುಟ್ಟು ಕುರುಡನೋ....!! , ಒಳಗಣ್ಣಿನೊಳಗೆ ನೋಡೋ....ಮೂಜಗದೊಡೆಯನ....!! we should start meditating on God, with the purpose of obtaining his blessings to see him inside ourselves, and make this life an effective one.

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|| SANDESHA - 13 ||

| SARVA BHOOTA DAYAA PUSHPAM ! |

After seeing and offering his prayers to his creator lord Vishnu, **lord Brahmadeva** gives a wonderful message to the mankind. Since supreme **God** is omnipresent, a saadhaka should try to see him not only in his inner self, but also in each and every creature of this universe. Seeing god in the **needy people** and serving him, by helping them is the ultimate offering by which the god will be satisfied to the fullest. Various ancient scriptures has thrown light on this and our guru **Vishwaguru Acharya Madhwa** has stressed on this in his works as - **ನಾನಾಜನಸ್ಯ ಶುಶ್ರುಷಾ ಕರ್ಮಾಖ್ಯಾ ಕರವನ್ಮಿತೇಃ....!!** How paying **Tax** to the Government is compulsory for every citizen, similarly serving the society is a **compulsory task** for each and every individual for thanking god, for his **infinite grace** he shows on us. A citizen who doesn't pay tax is subjected to punishment, in the same way an individual who doesn't who wishes for the **goodness of the nation** is punished by the god.

But here, a question may arise - "People are always **unsatisfied**, how can we make them happy by helping them?" As **lord Krishna** has beautifully described his greatness and omnipresence in Srimad Bhagavadgita, with the sole purpose of **satisfying the god** who is residing in everyone, we must do our duty of serving the people. Daily we are seeing, there are so many people who selflessly help the needy people, and when the people who had received their help during their tough times forgets them or stays away from them, they become disappointed. If we serve the society by only seeing the people, then the chances of getting disappointed by them will be there. Not only the society, even in our **daily lives**, there may be situations where we must engage with and serve the ignorant, harsh people, because of various reasons like responsibility, inevitability etc. If we only see them and do our duty, chances of getting anger and disappointment will be very high, when we are hurt by them for any reasons. But if we do our duty only with the **purpose** of serving our god residing in them, then the question of expectation and disappointment never arises.

Even while bowing to others, if we develop the same mindset of surrendering to the god residing in them, then there will be no confusions and other problems. Not only human beings, even **other creatures** like animals, birds, plants etc. must be fed with the thought of serving the god inside them. **Expectation** is our worst **enemy**. By understanding this **universal truth**, if we start doing all our actions and duties only with the intention of pleasing the god who is present everywhere, we can lead a happy life.

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|| SANDESHA - 14 ||

| LORD VARAHA'S INCARNATION ! |

The entire **Universe**, created by Lord Brahmadeva with the blessings of lord Vishnu, completely drowned in the water, not once, but twice! When lord Brahma started to think for the solution, Lord Narayana himself incarnated himself in the form of a **Varaha** and saved the universe that was drowning in the water!

In the first situation, an asura named **Adi Hiranyaksha**, the son of Brahmadeva himself, purposefully drowned this universe in the water. To save the universe, **Lord Adi Varaha** incarnated and came out from the nose of brahmadeva and killed the asura from his **horns** and then brought up this universe. In the second instance, an asura named **Hiranyaksha**, the son of Kashyapa-Dithi couple, grew to such an extent

that all the devatas were frightened to face him. As per the direction from Narada maharshi, Hiranyaksha went to the underworld, tried to drown this universe and then invited **Lord Yagna Varaha**, who was residing there, to fight against him. Lord varaha easily defeated him and killed him by hitting his **ear**. In this way, Lord Narayana incarnated in the form of Varaha twice, and protected this universe. **Vishwaguru Acharya Madhwa** beautifully highlights this in his works, and helps us to overcome the confusions that may arise, in the subject of incarnation of Lord Varaha.

Even today, our **world** is completely drowning, not by single asura Hiranyaksha, but because of various asuras in the form of **immorality, injustice** etc. , it is being subjected to decadence. But Our world should not drown, it must grow up ! The only way to prevent our world from getting drowned is by obtaining the **blessings** of Lord Yagna Varaha. Offering ghee, wood peices and other objects to the fire, by chanting the Veda mantras, is not the only yagna. By developing qualities like **devotion and sacrifice**, if all the actions that we do in our daily life are done along with the sole intention of pleasing the god, then our lives itself becomes a **Yagna**. In this way, we can obtain the blessings of Lord Yagna Varaha and thus protect our world from getting dominated by bad activities. On this holy day of **Varaha Jayanti**, may Lord Varaha bless us all and grant the strength to overcome all the difficulties in this tough situation.

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|| SANDESHA - 15 ||

| IMPORTANCE OF BHAKTI ! |

As learnt earlier, our every action should be done with the purpose of pleasing the God, who is omnipresent. Srimad Bhagavata gives special importance for '**Bhakti**' - gaining the knowlegde of god and offering our immense love towards him, which is the main factor one must try to develop while doing each and every action. Whatever good deeds we do like meditation, penance, sacrifice, yagna etc should be specially done with the thought of "**Naham karta Harih Karta**" - God is making me do these things, i'm not the **independent** doer. If all these deeds are done with the thought that we are the sole doers, then the purpose of doing them goes wasted!

This concept of Bhakti can be understood clearly by looking at this example - A heap of plain papers lying on one side has no value, but as soon as a stamp of **Reserve Bank of India** is put on that paper, then that paper turns into a currency, which has so much value that we all know in today's world, no other thing has parallel **importance** to this money! Using this we can get whatever we want. Any deeds done without the knowledge of god, is like a plain paper which has no value whereas deeds done by remembering god and offering them at his feet will be like a currency which is highly valuable! Sri Krishna has described the importance of Bhakti in Sri Bhagavad Gita - ಸ್ವಲ್ಪಮಪ್ಯಸ್ಯ ಧರ್ಮಸ್ಯ ತ್ರಾಯತೇ ಮಹತೋ ಭಯಾತ್....! Even a small good deed done with the involvement of Bhakti, gives us **infinite fruits**. But a deed, which appears to have the greatest value in this world, if done without the knowledge of god, loses its value. Understanding this importance given to Bhakti, we must continuously involve ourselves in gaining the knowledge of god and see him in our each and every actions and offer our prayers to him for his **infinite grace** on us, in each and every moment of our life. By this way, we can turn our life into a '**Yagna**' and make it an effective one!

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|| SANDESHA - 16 ||

| OUR MIND - THE DIRECTOR ! |

We all know the famous Bhagavadgita, preached by Lord Krishna to Arjuna. Similarly there are many more gita's preached by the lord Vishnu himself, through his various other incarnations. Srimad Bhagavata has thrown light on few of them. One such is the **Kapila Gita**. Incarnating as the son of Kardama - Devahooti couple, Lord Kapila gives his amazing messages to the mankind, by preaching it to his mother.

ಮನ ಏವ ಮನುಷ್ಯಾಣಾಂ ಕಾರಣಂ ಬಂಧಮೋಕ್ಷಯೋಃ....! In this world, our **mind** itself is mainly responsible for detention and salvation! This message by lord Kapila beautifully describes the importance of our mind. Using a single key, we can not only lock the door but also open it. In the same way, our mind can make us to either completely fall in this samsaara or get completely rid off this samsaara. If we immerse our mind only in the **worldly matters**, obviously it leads us to get deeper and deeper in this samsara and leads us to the detention. Even while involving in the worldly matters, if we think of god all the time, then this same mind directs us to the path of salvation.

Our mind is like a **mirror**. When a mirror is crystal clear, whatever we see through it appears clearly. But if the mirror itself is dirty, then even a crystal clear thing appears as if it is dirty. Without **remembering god** in each and every moment of our life, if we simply involve ourselves in the worldly actions, the mind immediately gets attached to the **subjectly matters** and gets clouded by the **illusion**. The only way to cleanse our contaminated mind is by obtaining the **blessings** of our gurus who are capable of helping us getting rid off this ocean of samsaara, which can be done by serving them, understanding their preachings and practically implementing them as per our aptitude.

Stressing the importance of a guru's role in a sadhaka's life, Lord Kapila describes some of the major **qualities** possessed by such a guru - Control on sensory organs, Selflessly helping others without any expectations, kind hearted one, devoid of any enemies, role model to even good people. Even various aparoksha gnanis(wise men) has highlighted the importance of such a guru, in their works - ಗುರುವಿನ ಗುಲಾಮನಾಗುವತನಕ ದೊರೆಯದಣ್ಣ ಮುಕುತಿ...! Understanding this, we must completely surrender to our gurus and seek their blessings. By doing so, we can get a clean mind, which further directs us to do more and more good deeds by earning the knowledge of god and thus helps us to make this single opportunity of life, an effective and satisfied one!

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|| SANDESHA - 17 ||

| WHERE ARE OUR ENEMIES ? |

We have seen how lord **Kapila** has beautifully explained how our **mind** itself is mainly responsible for detainment and liberation. Understanding of this concept can be further strengthened by looking at a eye opening story - A **knowledge seeker**, who wanted to get rid off his enemies who were continuously troubling him, constantly prayed to God with immense devotion, to bless him by destroying those enemies. God was pleased by his prayers, so he started firing his towards that man, with the purpose of killing his enemies. The man not only got disappointed but also was shocked on seeing this. He asked god : "I prayed you to destroy my enemies, but instead of doing so, you are trying to kill me only! Did you lose your aim? What mistake have i done? "

On hearing his words, **God** appeared in front of him and answered - "Look my boy, initially i hesitated to fire my weapons at you. But because of your continuous prayers, i was forced to do so. You prayed me to destroy your enemies, i could not find them anywhere outside, they all are **residing inside** you only and have built their own large kingdom! So, to kill them i had no other option but to direct my weapons towards you!". On hearing this, the man, who was a knowledge seeker, understood that his mind itself was his friend as well as his enemy.

Same is our situation. All the **good thoughts** that come to our mind are like Pandavas. The **bad thoughts** that come to our mind are like the Kouravas. Our mind itself is a **Kurukshetra**, where every moment of our life, we would be experiencing the tug of war between the pandavas and the kouravas. In this war, most of the times, **unfortunately**, the kouravas will be the winners. In that Kurukshetra war which happened in Dwaparayug, pandavas were able to completely **destroy** the kouravas, because they had **Krishna and Bheemasena** in their side. Similarly, in our mind's kurukshetra war, to make pandavas(good thoughts) the winners, we should **install** Lord Krishna and Lord Vayu(Incarnations - Hanuman, Bheemasena and Vishwaguru Acharya Madhwa) in our hearts and make them our life's charioteer. Only then, we can completely overcome our enemies like **improper knowledge, excessive knowledge** etc. and earn the **proper knowledge** of both the God and this world, and thereby be driven by the good thoughts, throughout our life time.

However, this can be said easily than to be done. So, to achieve this mindset, atleast to full capacity of our aptitude, we must put **continuous efforts** to seek the blessings of the God and his upmost devotee, lord Vayu. To obtain their blessings, each and every moment of our life should be led in the form of a yagna. Only then we can lead a satisfied life.

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|| SANDESHA - 18 ||

| VARIOUS FORMS OF DEVOTION ! |

As learnt earlier, Devahooti devi, after understanding various aspects of Lord Kapila's preachings, prayed him to explain more about the different forms of **bhakti**. Lord Kapila, then starts explaining to her, different types of his devotees, their ways of offering prayers to him etc. Sri Krishna in his Bhagavadgita has nicely narrated about the three qualities, **Satva-guna, Rajo-guna and the thamo-guna**, which are highly influencing all our actions. Lord Kapila highlights this by describing how devotion is influenced by these qualities.

A **tamasa devotee** is a one, who shows his devotion towards god, neither with the sole purpose of pleasing him nor with the purpose of obtaining any fruits, but with the sole intention of **desiring bad for others**. This devotee is the worst one, who neither get the blessings of god in his present life nor go to a good world after his death.

A **rajasa devotee** is a one, who prays god with the intention of obtaining his blessings, to get some **temporary fruits**. Such a devotee does all his duties with the purpose of getting various sources of temporary happiness like wealth, glory etc. He offers his prayers to god only by worshipping him in the form of an idol, in a temple. He doesn't care for thinking about the omnipresence of god, thereby he neither tries to see him in his inner self nor does he try to see him everywhere. He will not be having the proper knowledge of god, his various incarnations etc.

Considered as a highest form of devotion, a **satvika devotee** is a one, who does not possess any of the qualities of neither a rajasa devotee nor a tamasa devotee! By earning the **proper knowledge of God**, he prays him solely with the purpose of pleasing him. A mother never ever expects anything from her baby, while feeding her. After her child grows up, she may expect something from it. But during its childhood, even though she faces several difficulties, she feeds it happily only with the intention of doing her duty. Similarly, a satvika devotee shows his devotion towards god. He does his all the duties, only with the intention of pleasing god and **never expects** any fruits. He offers his immense devotion to god, to see him in his heart lotus, by getting rid off all his sins.

By understanding this, we must try to become a satvika devotee. However, In our daily lives various situations may come, where we may be **forced** to pray lord for various fruits. As a result, It may not be able for us to develop such a level of satvika devotion shown by various wise men like **Bhagavatottamas** Lord Hanuman, king Prahallada etc. Atleast by taking inspiration from them, we must try to reduce our prayers to god for getting fruits, and pray him only for obtaining his grace.

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|| SANDESHA - 19 ||

| SWAKARMANA TAMABHYARCHA ! |

Lord Kapila, by describing the various forms of Bhakti, highlights the importance of **Satvika Devotion**. Further, he explains various characteristics to be possessed by such a devotee. How a mother loves and feeds her child without any expectations, similarly a devotee must **develop** devotion towards **god** by praising his **immense grace** on us, with the purpose of only obtaining his blessings and without expecting any other fruits from him. When we develop such a practise by doing all our duties with the knowledge of god, even if we don't expect any fruits, god who knows our inside out, will be pleased by our seva and grants us everything according to our aptitude.

A man who was coming back to his home from abroad, wrote a letter to his son stating all the details of his journey and also asked him to come to pick him from the station, on his arrival. His son, on receiving that letter become so joyous that he didn't even look at what was written in it, but blindly kept it in the god's house and started worshipping it. Not only the man's arrival day came, after waiting for a very long time for his son at the station, the man filled with anger finally came back home and scolded his son.

Similarly, God who is our father, has given his **ultimate messages** to the mankind, through various ancient scriptures, Vedas, Shruti-smritis etc. Our gurus right from **Vishwaguru Acharya Madhwa**, in the form of their blessings, has written infinite works on these preachings of the lord and has made it much more simpler for us. Even after having so much comforts, we **neglect** to gain the proper knowledge of God by reading those works. Like that son, we also In our life time, every year on some auspicious days like Dusshera etc., simply keep those books in the god's house and only do **glorious pooja** to them. As a result, we **fail** to understand the messages given to us by those works and simply involve ourselves in these worldly actions, and one final day we leave this world **empty handedly**. Even god will not be pleased with this action of ours.

Husband of Goddess Lakshmi, **Swaramana** Lord Srihari does not expect any money, gold, diamonds etc from us. Understanding the **omnipresence** of the god, along with worshipping him in idols, we must also involve ourselves in **serving** the needy people, other creatures like animals, birds etc. If we sincerely serve the god present in them, without any expectations, god will be most pleased by this. Sri Krishna, he himself

has stressed the importance of various forms of duties which we humans should do in our life time - ತಸ್ಯ ಪ್ರಾಣ್ಯುಪಕಾರೇಣ ಪ್ರೀತೋ ಭವತೀಶ್ವರಃ....!! Along with this, by doing all our **daily duties** which we do for earning our livelihood and **implementing** religious practices like Sandhyavandana, earning the knowledge of god etc., even to a small proportion, with the purpose of pleasing the god, we can obtain his blessings.

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|| SANDESHA - 20 ||

| KNOWLEDGE OF INDIFFERENCE

IN GOD'S VARIOUS INCARNATIONS ! |

After explaining how we can obtain his blessings by offering our various duties at his lotus feet, Lord Kapila further explains how a true devotee should worship him. "**Apruthagbhavaha**" is one of the important elements which a sadhaka should develop. One who sees **uniformity** in all the different incarnations of Lord Narayana, is known as an uprooted one or an Apruthagbhava. When we go through our ancient scriptures, there are chances where **doubts** may arise regarding the uniformity of various incarnations of the god. For an example, in **Ramayana** there is an instance where 2 incarnations of Lord Vishnu himself, Lord Rama defeats Lord Parashurama in a fight between them. When God is a flawless one, how can he face defeat? Is there any differences between lord's incarnation? Similarly many other doubts may arise. These incidents have been highlighted mainly with the purpose of **misguiding** the unqualified people. To give proper knowledge on such situations, our guru **Vishwaguru Acharya Madhwa** has clearly clarified about all these doubts, in his various works and has highly stressed the importance of understanding the uniformity in lord's incarnations.

Not only in Lord's incarnations, there is also **uniformity** in each and every organs of god. Unlike us, who are capable of doing only a particular activity from particular organs like eyes can only see, ears can only hear, nose can only smell etc., **satchidananda** figure Lord Krishna's all the organs can do all the activities without any difference. For example, his eyes can not only see but also smell, walk, touch, taste etc. Similarly without any defects, all the organs of the god is **highly capable** of doing any activity. By understanding this concept of uniformity in lord's incarnations and also in his organs, we must always look at the **non duality**(Advaita) between them. When comparing ourselves with the god, we must always see the **duality**(Dvaita - Tatvavaada) between god and us. In the same way, when we firmly understand the **universal truth** of differences between God, all the living beings and non-living beings, then there will be no chances for any errors.

After giving all these unparallel messages to the mankind, Lord Kapila **summarises** his entire preachings as - "Devotion without any service to me and serving me without devotion, both are incompleated. By obtaining my proper knowledge and by doing your assigned duties with immense devotion in me, one can completely obtain my blessings. I'll surely pleased by this!" Even after learning all about this, if we don't try to implement them in our daily lives, then we are only the ultimate losers. Hence we must wake up at the earliest and start following the path shown by the god and be blessed.

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| CHATURTHA SKANDA |

|| SANDESHA - 21 ||

| CLEVERNESS OF WISE MEN ! |

One of the nine daughters of Kardama-Devahooti couple, **Anasooya devi** got married to **Atri Maharshi**. Later, with the purpose of getting a child **equivalent** to the Trio of Lord Vishnu, Lord Brahma and Lord Maheshwara, Atri maharshi began a tough penance.

Water has a form, but doesn't have a specific form. When filled in a glass, it takes the form of a glass, similarly it takes various forms depending on where it is filled. In the same way, being a **chinmaya roopa**, Lord Vishnu, even though possess a form, cannot be seen because of a not possessing any particular form. **Lord Vishnu**, who is omnipresent, independently and solely responsible for all the activities of this Universe, himself **resides** in the form of Brahma and Shiva, in Lord Brahma and Lord Shiva respectively and controls them. Similarly, he himself controls each and every element of this universe, by residing inside them. Even though he does all these actions, being a flawless one, Lord Vishnu will always remain unattached to the fruits of any of these actions.

Firmly knowing all this, while doing penance, instead of thinking about each of the trios separately, the Atri maharshi through his **cleverness**, thought only about Lord Vishnu through his various forms. Pleased by this thought of the maharshi, the trios blessed him and they themselves incarnated as his children : Lord Vishnu as **Dattatreya**, Lord Shiva as **Durvasa rishi** and **moon god** with the element of Lord Brahma.

A beautiful message has been delivered in this storyline. Atri maharshi was married to Anasooya devi, who was **never envy** on others. Further to get the trios as his sons, Atri **left** the three evil factors - **Lust, rage and exhaustion**. Sri Krishna has highly stressed on leaving these three elements which acts as thorns in the path of attaining enlightenment, for a knowledge seeker - ಕಾಮಃ ಕ್ರೋಧಸ್ತಥಾ ಲೋಭಃ ತಸ್ಮಾದೇತತ್ ತ್ರಯಂ ತ್ಯಜೇತ್...!! By understanding this, we must try to get rid off this evil enviousness, lust, rage and exhaustion to get Lord himself as our child (to obtain his blessings).

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|| SANDESHA - 22 ||

| GOD'S MAIN FOUNDATION (ADHISHTANA) ! |

Satidevi, one of the daughter's of Daksha prajapati, was married to **Lord Rudra**. Daksha prajapati had organised an Yagna, where all the gods and goddesses had gathered there. When **Daksha** entered the hall where the yagna was going on, all the angels **except** lord Vishnu, lord Brahma and lord Shiva stood up and showed their respects to him. But Daksha prajapati, who's aptitude is much more **lower** than that of Lord Shiva, on seeing this behaviour of his son-in-law, got **angered** on him and cursed him to not get any portions in the yagna.

Later, to show much more **disrespect** to Lord Shiva, Daksha again organised an yagna, and invited all the angels **except** his daughter Satidevi and son-in-law Lord Shiva. Disappointed by this, Satidevi asked her husband Lord Rudra the reason for his act of showing disrespect to his father in law, earlier. The answer given by Lord Shiva is an eye opener to all of us - " Satidevi, all our **pranams and prayers** are not merely offered to any person, but offered mainly to the **supreme Lord Vishnu** residing inside him. On that day, your father's heart was completely filled with various **evil emotions** like lust, anger, enmity etc. Also, at

that time, i was meditating on lord Srihari, through my father **Lord Brahma**, who was sitting in front of me. As a result, i could not feel the presence of lord Narayana in your father! So, i didn't get up and showed my respects to him!"

All though, God is **omnipresent**, we can feel his presence, only in a place which is free of all the evil emotions. Only **rujus** like lord Brahma, lord Vayu, Latavyaru etc., who are highly termed as '**Akhanaashma sama**', are always free of and **unaffected** by any of the evil emotions, thanks to the immense blessings and presence of the supreme god Lord Narayana and his wife goddess Lakshmidēvi, always. Even **Upanishats** have highly upheld the greatness of these rujus. Once, all the angels, in search of proper foundation to meditate upon Lord Narayana, tried to meditate through all other gods and goddesses, but failed to get the required focus. When they tried with **lord Vayu** as their foundation, they could get complete focus, irrespective of any disturbances outside. Overwhelmed by this, they all firmly decided to choose lord Vayu as their **foundation** and there onwards began their meditation.

Lord Rudra, who is highly **omniscient** after Lord Vishnu and lord Brahma, was fully aware of this, hence he acted accordingly. As a result, even though it appears like a mistake in the worldly view, this act of Lord Rudra, is not at all a sin. A beautiful message has been delivered to the mankind, from this incident. By understanding this **importance** of the rujus, we must surrender to them and offer our prayers to lord Narayana, through them, to obtain his blessings.

ಪ್ರೀತೋಽಸ್ಮು ಕೃಷ್ಣಪ್ರಭುಃ

|| SANDESHA - 23 ||

| **BEWARE OF DROWNING IN THESE WORLDLY PLEASURES !** |

King Uttanapada, had 2 wives namely **Suneeti and Suruchi**. He had immense love towards Suruchi. Binded by this attachment, Uttanapada had **lost** all his strength to raise his voice against her's evil mindedness of not giving any status to his first wife, Suneeti. Because of this weak minded King, the entire kingdom was always in a very weak position.

One day, **Uttama**, son of Suruchi was sitting on the lap of his father Uttanapada, who was sitting on his throne. On seeing this, **Dhruva**, son of Suneeti also wished to sit on his father's lap and ran towards him. However, **Suruchi** prevented him from going near his father and egoistically told him - " If you want to sit on your father's lap, go to forest , do penance and then take your birth from me! Otherwise, you are **not allowed** to sit on your father's lap." When a pure minded child excitedly tried to sit on his father's lap, this ego filled Suruchi **insulted** him in the presence of everyone.

Being a King who's main duty was to fight against the **injustice** that was happening to his own son, Uttanapada had to stop his wife - " Suruchi, he's also my son, don't stop him from coming near me! " But, because of his **over-attachment** towards her, Uttanapada did not possess enough **courage** to oppose her. As a result, he silently sat on his throne looking at all these happenings!

Similar is the situation of all of us! Uttanapada **did not want** Suneeti (Good thoughts), he only wanted Suruchi (Good Taste). In the same way, we also **neglect** our cultures, moral values, virtues etc. But we are **highly attracted** towards the temporary worldly pleasures. In the beginning, we might develop attraction only towards good pleasures, but **eventually** we get completely trapped in these pleasures and fail to discriminate between the good and bad. Like how the king had no courage to oppose his wife, we also completely lose our power of discernment. Because of this, ultimately we completely get diverted from our main goal of obtaining the God's blessings for attaining enlightenment, and get more and more jailed in this

samsaara. By understanding this, we must wake up and try not to **drown** in these worldly pleasures. A lotus, even though residing in the water, never gets attached to it. Similarly, we must develop our mindset of living in this world, without getting attached to any of the pleasures. Then only we can lead a happy life.

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|| SANDESHA - 24 ||

| SUNEETI'S INSPIRING MESSAGE ! |

After being insulted by his step mother Suruchi, **Dhruva** completely filled with sorrow, came back towards his mother Suneeti. On seeing this sad situation of her son, Suneeti learnt about all the earlier happenings from the surrounding people and comforted Dhruva and advised him with few words - " My son, never ever think bad for anyone! - ಮಾಸಮಂಗಲಂ ತಾತ ಪರೇಷು ಮಂಸಾಃ None of the people are independently responsible for our various **emotions** like happiness, sadness etc. According to our **initial karmas** which were done by us in our earlier lives, Supreme god grants us happiness, anger, fearness etc. by making various people responsible for that. So, by understanding this, you don't try to think bad for your step mother. Instead, go to the forest and do penance to obtain the blessings of God. Neither ask him for taking birth in your step mother nor for any other temporary fruits. Just ask for his blessings. His blessings are solely responsible for getting rid off all these emotions." Dhruva who was a bold boy, on hearing this, offered his pranams to his mother and went to the forest to do penance.

Even in such a situation, where she being the prime queen had been avoided of all the statuses and along with that, her son being insulted and denied by his rights, Suneeti gave this brave advice to her son. We can easily witness the **wiseness** and courage of Suneeti devi from this incident. Similarly, in Ramayana an instance arises where, **Sumitradevi**, the third wife of King Dasharatha, herself is more excited to send her son Lakshmana to the forest along with Sri Ramachandra. She cheers him by telling him that his life's purpose itself was to serve his brother Lord Ramachandra. Such is the **greatness** of these mothers!

Today, when children in their younger days wish to read our ancient scriptures, attend spiritual speeches, do sandhyavandana, follow rituals like Ekadashi etc., majority of the mothers demotivate them and advice them to do all those when they grow up. After their children grow up by learning only modern education and **failing** to know about our ancient cultures and moral values, then these mothers themselves suffer in the future. Everyday we are seeing how many parents are facing various problems, because of their uncultured children. So our modern parents, especially mothers who are the first guru for their children, of **today's generation** should get inspired from these courageous and wise women of our ancient scriptures and guide their children in the right path, from the beginning itself.

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|| SANDESHA - 25 ||

| NARADA MAHARSHI'S GUIDANCE TO DHRUVA ! |

When Dhruva started towards the forest to obtain the blessings of the supreme God, on his way, **Narada maharshi** approached him. Even though he knew everything, Narada maharshi questioned Dhruva kumara as to why he was heading towards the forest. Dhruva, who was very upset by all the earlier

happenings, explained him everything. Acting as though he was astonished by this, Narada maharshi **purposefully** told him few demotivating words, with the intention of seeing his rigidity in his decision -

" Dhruva, this act of your's is not looking appropriate. You must understand that in this world, there are various types of people. You may experience happiness or sadness from them, however they are not mainly **responsible** for this. Your attachment, over careness etc. towards them will lead you to such emotional situations. If you engage with them only by thinking that these all are mere **businesses of God**, who gives you everything according to your **aptitude**, then without any expectations you can lead a happy life. By understanding this, you don't need to think too much about the words of Suruchi and go to the forest. Also, your purpose of doing penance to obtain the blessings of God, is not that easy. **Rushi-munis** who have sacrificed everything and doing penance from thousands of years, to obtain the blessings of God, have till date not been able to get the enlightenment. So your effort to obtain his blessings will not be fruitful, so go back to your kingdom! "

After hearing all this, Dhruva replied - " Maharshi, i'm very greatfull for your kindness on me. But unfortunately, right now i'm not in a situation to understand all this. I've been highly upset by my step mothers cruel words. Anyhow, i'm not going in a wrong direction. Even if i'm not able to get the blessings of the God, my penance towards achieving it will **never** go wasted. So i request you to bless me by guiding me in this path! " Narada maharshi on hearing this, became very happy by seeing the courage of young Dhruva and further explained him the various aspects of how to do the penance and also preached him the **Vasudeva mantra** and blessed him. Dhruva, offered his pranams to Narada maharshi and went to the forest. On the other side, king Uttanapada on knowing about his son going to forest, repented deeply for his mistake, who was then comforted by Narada Maharshi himself, who assured him that his son would surely achieve his goal and would become an inspiration to others in the future.

This story gives us a beautiful message - 1) If we really posses the **desire** to obtain the blessings of God by earning his proper knowledge, even if we don't have any **clarity** on how to move further in that path, if we whole heartedly **surrender** at the feet of the God, he surely grants us with the oppurtunity of getting the guidance from our gurus, according to our aptitude. 2) Whatever actions we do in this spiritual path, **never** goes wasted. In one or the other way, it surely protects us!

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|| SANDESHA - 26 ||

| KINDNESS OF LORD VASUDEVA ! |

After getting the guidance from Narada Maharshi, **Dhruva** entered the forest and began his penance. Initially, he sacrificed the food, controlled all his sensory organs and **concentrated** only on seeing the form of God, in his mind. After few months, his penance became much more tougher, where he even paused breathing. As a result, all the **14 worlds** started shaking! All the angels approached the supreme Lord Narayana and prayed him, who assured them of protecting them from this situation.

We also sit to do meditation. While meditating, **except God**, everything else comes to our mind. Our situation has become so worse that our meditation can be defined as a time where we think only about our family problems. While doing pooja, even though we would be free from all the family members for some time, we only think about house, money matters and other problems. Instead of thinking about God, who controls everything, we only think these worldly matters. Upanishats only have mentioned the reason for this - ಪರಾಂಜಿ ಖಾನಿ ವ್ಯತ್ಯಣಾತ್ ಸ್ವಯಂಭೂಃ ತಸ್ಮಾತ್ ಪರಾಕ್ ಪಶ್ಯತಿ ನಾಂತರಾತ್ಮನ್....!

Independent Lord Vishnu has made the sensory organs of the humans to see **outwards**. Hence, these organs have become weak by seeing only the worldly objects and have lost their strength to see God in them. As a result, we are not at all able to look inside ourselves. But Dhruva's approach of seeing the God is an exception from this. With a completely focussed mind, he continuously chanted the **Vasudeva mantra** by thinking of only the God's form, in his **heart lotus**. As a result, such a small boy could easily obtain the blessings of the God.

Pleased by this penance of Dhruva, which was filled with immense devotion, God appeared in front of him to shower his blessings. But the **depth of penance** of Dhruva was so immense that he could not even recognise God's presence in front of him. Everywhere, we see devotees waiting to see God and obtain his blessings, but here, God himself was waiting for his devotee to see him. When **Bheeshmacharya** offered his prayers while sleeping on the bed of arrows, Sri Krishna accepted his prayers by sitting in front of him. When **Prahalada** offered his prayers, Lord Narasimha heartfully accepted it while killing Hiranyakashipu. Similarly, here while Dhruva was meditating by sitting, **Lord Vasudeva** eagerly waited to shower his blessings, by standing in front of him. In whatever way, a true devotee prays to the God, he will accept their prayers. Such is the kindness of God on his true devotees! Various Aparoksha jnanis have praised this kindness of God, in their works - ಮಲಗಿ ಪರಮಾದರದಿ ಪಾಡಲು ಕುಳಿತು ಕೇಳುವ..... ಸುಲಭನೋ ಹರಿ ತನ್ನವರನರೇಳಿಗೆ ಬಿಟ್ಟುಗಲನೋ.....!!

After some time, Lord Vasudeva made his form disappear from Dhruva's heart lotus. Shocked by this, Dhruva suddenly opened his eyes and to his **astonishment**, he could see the same form of God standing in front of him! He immediately bowed to him and offered his pranams.

By understanding this kindness of God, we must completely surrender to him to obtain his blessings.

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|| SANDESHA - 27 ||

| LORD VISHNU'S IMMENSE BLESSINGS ! |

On seeing **Lord Vasudeva**, who was standing right in front of him, **Dhruva** was so amazed and shocked that even though he wanted to speak and express his happiness, he was **not able** to do so. Understanding this, Lord Vasudeva kindly touched the Capola of Dhruva, with his conch. Immediately prayers started flowing from Dhruva's mouth - " ಯೋಸಂತಃ ಪ್ರವಿಶ್ಯ ಮಮ ವಾಚಮಿಮಾಂ ಪ್ರಸುಪ್ತಾಂ.....!! Oh omnipresent God, **only** because of your presence and kindness, we are able to speak, see, talk and do all other activities from all our organs. My infinite pranams to you, for your immense kindness on us! "

Lord Shiva once asked **Lord Brahma** - " By whose influence does this mind operate? By whose influence does Lord Vayu do his all his unparalleled actions? By whose influence do these sensory organs work? " Lord Brahma beautifully explains the omnipresence of Supreme Lord Vishnu in his answer - " **Lord Vishnu**, who is solely, independently responsible for all our actions **resides** inside each and every organ - He resides inside the ear in the form of ear, in the form of eye in the eye etc. and makes us do all the activities from those organs. Because of his influence only, our mind also operates in the direction directed by him, according to our aptitude. Because of his immense and incomparable blessings only, **Lord Vayu** is capable of doing all his amazing actions! "

Dhruva who had understood this by the blessings of Lord Brahma, offered his prayers to Lord Narayana, in the same aspect. Only because of the presence of electricity, all the machineries are capable to do their task. If there is no flow of electricity, these machineries are of no use. Similarly, all our organs are capable to do their duty only by the presence of God. In his absence, all these organs become useless! **Vishwaguru**

Acharya Madhwa, himself being the third incarnation of Lord Vayu, has highlighted these amazing businesses of Lord Vishnu in his works - ತತ್ರ ತತ್ರ ಸ್ಥಿತೋ ವಿಷ್ಣುಃ ತತ್ತಜ್ಜಕ್ತೀಃ ಪ್ರಭೋದಯನ್ | ಏಕ ಏವ ಮಹಾಶಕ್ತಿಃ ಕುರುತೇ ಸರ್ವಮಂಜಸಾ || After obtaining the complete blessings of Lord Vasudeva, Dhruva returned to his palace. Everyone, including his father, mother, step mother and brother, very happily and gloriously welcomed him back and highly praised him for his unparalleled achievement at such a small age. Later Uttanapada **throned** Dhruva as the king to his kingdom and left to the forest. Unfortunately, Uttama, brother of Dhruva died in a battle with the Yakshas. Angered by this, Dhruva bravely fought against these servants of Kubera and defeated them. After **successfully** ruling his kingdom for several thousand years , Dhruva later became a **Pole star** and is guiding us even today.

This story of Dhruva gives us a beautiful **message** - If intentionally we are insulted or bullied by someone, **instead** of developing enmity over them, we must understand that everything that happens is only because of our **initial karmas** in previous lives and offer everything at the feet of the Supreme God who completely knows our inside out, and try to **concentrate** only on doing our duties with the main aim of obtaining his blessings. Only then we can lead a satisfied life.

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|| SANDESHA - 28 ||

| PRUTHU CHAKRAVARTHY'S HUMBLENESS ! |

In the lineage of Dhruva Maharaj, **Pruthu chakravarthy** was one of the most prominent kings. He was the son of king **Vena**, who was a very cruel ruler, who opposed all the good people, prohibited all the spiritual activities, beliefs etc. from his kingdom. Because of his evilness, all the citizens including many Rishi-munis, who were **fed up** with his ruling, pleaded him to change his style of ruling the kingdom. When he neglected them and continued his evilness, Rishi-munis through their spiritual power killed him.

But king Pruthu's behaviour was completely **opposite** to that of his father's. He was a true devotee of Lord Vishnu, very humble and a good person. After placing him on the throne of the kingdom, the Vandimagadhas started **praising** him. But immediately Pruthu, who was a knowledgeable man, humbly told them - " O Vandimagadhas, please stop praising me. If some good deeds are done, then if you praise me, then that's a different matter. But, just now i've been throned as the king and i've not yet done anything good to the kingdom. Already you are praising me. I don't find this right. Also what's more important than this is, instead of praising the **supreme God** who is filled with **infinite qualities** and is the independent doer of all the activities of this universe, if you praise a common person like me, who does some good deeds only because of the complete blessings of the God, then it would be very unfair! So, I request you all to praise the omnipresent God! - ಸತ್ಕೃತಮಶ್ಲೋಕ ಗುಣಾನುವಾದೇ ಜುಗುಪ್ಸಿತಂ ನ ಸ್ತವಯಂತಿ ಸಭಾಃ..|| "

Once, all the **Suras** fought bravely against the asuras and defeated them. Only because of the **special presence** of Supreme God inside them, these Suras could achieve this. Before winning the war, all of them had this proper knowledge. But as soon as they defeated the Asuras, they entirely **forgot** this and started praising themselves for their achievement. Kind hearted God, laughing at seeing this situation of the Suras, decided to teach them a lesson. After **retrieving** back his special presence in them, he appeared in front of them and asked them to shake a small grass stick. Even after putting their **complete efforts**, all the suras failed to even move that grass stick. Finally, after understanding their **impotence** in front of the supreme God, they realised their mistake and surrendered at his feet and offered their prayers!

Our situation is also similar to the position of these Suras. When we do some good deeds, instead of **thanking** God for his special blessings on us to do those deeds, because of illusion, we highly praise ourselves. When something bad happens from our side, then we entirely throw the **blame** on god. Such is our miserable condition! From these incidents, we should understand the universal truth that all **good deeds** done by us are solely because of **God's kindness** on us, we are nothing in his absence and all the **bad deeds** we do are because of our **improper knowledge** and our initial karmas. By developing this presence of mind, we must do all our duties. Only then, god will be pleased with our service.

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|| SANDESHA - 29 ||

| IMPORTANT ASPECTS OF OUR LIFE ?! |

Srimad Bhagavata has beautifully described how **Pruthu Chakravarthy** has glouriously ruled his kingdom. Through his good qualities and sincere efforts, king Pruthu **enhanced** the richness of this Earth. With the purpose of pleasing the supreme Lord Narayana, he performed 100 Ashwamedha yagnas. Pleased by this, **Lord SriHari** appeared in front of him and after blessing him, he also gave few messages to the mankind - "ಯಃ ಸ್ವಧರ್ಮೇಣ ಮಾಂ ನಿತ್ಯಂ ನಿರಾಶೀಃ ಶ್ರದ್ಧಯಾನ್ವಿತಃ...!! All the people of this universe must sincerely involve themselves in doing their assigned duties only with the **sole purpose** of pleasing me, only then they can obtain my blessings and become free from all their sins! "

An example gives us more clarity on this concept - Let's assume, a same **food** is prepared both by a mother and a merchant. But there may be many **defects** in the food prepared by the merchant, when compared with that of the mother. The reason behind this would be quite clear - A **mother** lovingly prepares food for her children with utmost care, with the sole purpose of doing her duty of feeding them while the **merchant** prepares the food, with not much care, because he would be preparing it with the sole purpose of doing his business. So, by this, we can clearly understand that any work, if done with the **duty consciousness** along with the purpose of pleasing the God, obviously the level of **satisfaction** felt by us, would be incomparably high. But if they are done with any other purposes like making money, pleasing or harming someone else etc., then the chances of doing **sins** will be more.

Along with ruling his kingdom in a good manner, king Pruthu would also **guide** his citizens in the spiritual path by preaching the knowledge of God. Pleased by all these good qualities of king Pruthu, sons of lord Brahmadeva, the **Sanakadis** came near him to bless him. After doing all the hospitality, king Pruthu questioned them - " What are the **important aspects**, one must develop to get rid off this samsaara and attain salvation ? " The answer given by the Sanakadis is an eye opener for all of us - " All our Shaastras has clearly described the path to be followed by a wise men, to get the enlightenment. By developing **detachment** towards the **worldly pleasures** and **attachment** towards **God**, one can get rid off this samsaara and attain salvation! "

This story of Pruthu Chakravrthy gives us a wonderful message : The two main aspects of life - **Devotion** towards God and **dedication** towards one's duty, without getting attached to its results, must be implemented in our lives. Only then, this valuable life would become an effective one.

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|| SANDESHA - 30 ||

| MESSAGE FROM THE STORY OF PURANJANA ! |

Lord Vedavyasa has given a wonderful message to all of us, by describing the story of **King Puranjana**. Puranjana, while wandering around the country, saw an **attractive city** which consisted of various beautiful shops, golden and silver mountains and other numerous attractive things. On seeing this **colourful world**, he entered inside the city. Attracted by the appearance of a beautiful **young woman**, he immediately fell in love with her. Later they both **married** and lead a happy life in her palace. As a result, he became a hand doll in her hands. His wife, through various **doorways**, would daily travel from one city to another city. Puranjana, completing **forgetting** his duties and responsibilities, simply followed her. Entirely forgetting about all the happenings about their kingdom, the couple completely **involved** themselves in enjoying their lives. As a result, the **Gandharvas** attacked and completely occupied their kingdom. Puranjana, who was held captive by the Gandharvas, lost all his strength and solely thinking about his wife, he died. As a result of thinking of a girl at the time of his death, Puranjana was born as a girl by the name **Vaidarbhi**, in his next birth. A sage by name **Malayadhwaja**, who was none other than the wife of Puranjana in his previous birth, married her. After the death of her husband, Puranjana in the form of Vaidarbhi repented for all his mistakes. Finally, his previous life's closest friend "**Avignata**" came to his rescue and preached him the philosophy. Understanding all this, Puranjana developed a beautiful personality and later attained enlightenment.

Our **life** is similar to that of this king Puranjana. We **jeevas** also have entered a beautiful city called '**body**'. In this body also, similar to that attractive city, there are various amazing nerves and cells, golden and silver mountains in the form of **three qualities** Satva, Raja and Tamas. Like numerous doorways in that city, here also there are **nine doorways**. Through the eyes, we see this attractive world, through our tongue we taste various delicious foods, etc. These nine doorways in our body has been described as "Brahmapura" in the Upanishats. In this beautiful city called 'body', the jeeva entered the intuition called '**heart**'. Then this jeeva met and married a beautiful young woman called '**Wit**'. He then became her servant and lost his personality. Along with her, he travelled to various cities called 'worldly pleasures' and completely forgetting about the kingdom called 'life' and his duties, he involved in enjoying those worldly pleasures. The Gandharvas, in the form of **various diseases** and other problems, are attacking us from all the sides on all the 365 days, still we are so much immersed in these temporary pleasures that instead of thinking that year by year we are nearing our death, we are celebrating and welcoming every new year with much more excitement. Ultimately, **failing** to realise this truth, we die.

Women are highly known for their **sacrificing** nature. Hence, to get ourselves uprooted, we must take birth again as a woman i.e. when we sacrifice all these worldly pleasures and serve our gurus, our forever closest friend, supreme God who is highly termed as '**Avignata Sakha**', blesses us and helps us to get rid off this **infinite** repeating cycle of samsara!

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|| SANDESHA - 31 ||

| IMPORTANCE OF THE SELF - CONCIIOUSNESS ! |

Lord Vedavyasa has highly stressed the importance of earning the **true knowledge** about our inner self. A **tiger cub**, in the midst of the forest, lost its connection with its mother and while wandering, it joined a heap of sheep. This tiger cub then joined that group and started living with them. It got completely **immersed** in that group to such a level that it totally forgot its **original nature** and started making noise like the sheep itself. One day, when an adult tiger saw this cub in the midst of the sheep, it intelligently caught this cub and brought it aside. Then it took that cub near the water and showed it's

reflection. On seeing it's **own reflection** and that tiger, the cub then realised that it was also a tiger and not a sheep! Then it started to roar and then went back fearlessly to the forest.

Our situation is very much similar to that of this tiger cub! By completely involving ourselves in these **worldly pleasures**, we have totally forgot our **real nature**. Because of improper knowledge, attachment and other flaws, we are considering the happiness, sadness and other **emotions** which we are daily experiencing, itself as related to us. As seen earlier, how the supreme God, in the form of **Avignata Sakha**, guided and blessed **king Puranjana** to understand and realise his true nature, we all **jeevas**, who are originally the **reflection of God**, must try to obtain the blessings of our gurus and thereby earn the knowledge about God and also about our true nature.

Once a **deer**, while roaming in the forest, saw a heap of grass and went there to eat them. In the midst of enjoying itself in eating that grass, the deer completely lost its **consciousness** about its surroundings. As a result, a lion pounced on it and killed it. In the same way as this deer, we have also completely **immersed** ourselves in enjoying these temporary worldly pleasures. Every day we are planning for one or the other functions like naming ceremonies, Upanayanas, Marriages, House - entering ceremonies etc. Without understanding the **main purpose** of this precious human life, we have **lost ourselves** in the midst of all these temporary pleasures. Death which was following King Puranjana in the form of Gandharvaas, is similarly following us day and night. When lord Yama comes near us to take us away, if we tell him - " O lord, today i'm busy in some other work, tomorrow i have to attend some function, please wait for me for some more time, later i'll come with you! " Will lord **Yama** accept our request and wait for us? Imagining such a situation is also not possible.

So by understanding this hard truth, we must try to realise our **self consciousness** by sincerely doing our assigned duty and obtaining the blessings of Lord Narayana!

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|| SANDESHA - 32 ||

| IMPORTANCE OF DHARMA AND GOD ! |

In this modern world, there are people who ask why we must give **importance** to our Dharma and God. Lord Vedavyasa, in this Bhagavata has described how Narada maharshi has beautifully explained the importance of these concepts by giving few examples - ಯಥಾ ತರೋರ್ಮೂಲ ನಿಷೇಚನೇನ ತೃಪ್ಯಂತಿ ತತ್ಸಂದ ಭುಜೋಪಶಾಖಾಃ.....!! If we properly start watering the **roots** of a tree, then gradually we can see how prosperously flowers and fruits grow. In the same way, if we develop devotion and offer our prayers to the **God**, who is the main root for this tree called '**Universe**', then we can easily obtain his blessings.

ಪ್ರಾಣೋಹಾರಾಚ್ಛ ಯಥೇಂದ್ರಿಯಾಣಾಂ ತಥೈವ ಸರ್ವಾರ್ಹಣಮಚ್ಯುತೇಜಃ.....!! If all our organs need to work properly, then our **stomach** should be filled. Once all the organs thought - ' We all are so active! Leg walks, hand works, eyes see, ears hear etc. But this stomach is so lazy that it doesn't do any work! Just to fill this useless stomach, why should we strive hard ? We'll do a **strike**! ' By deciding so, all the organs involved themselves in all their activities, but purposefully neglected their attention towards the food. As a result, day by day all these organs, started losing their strength. Legs failed to stand, hands failed to lift, eyes failed to see etc. After suffering, these organs realised their mistake! They decided - ' Like us, this stomach is also very much active. Because of its work only, we all are able to survive and do our duties properly ! '

Looking at these examples, we can understand why our ancient scriptures has highlighted the importance of **Dharma and God**. If we don't feed our stomach, automatically all other organs lose their

strength, in the same way, if we don't give preference to Dharma and God in our lives, our precious life itself goes wasted! Without God, we cannot **survive**. Irrespective of our prayers to god, we are leading this life happily today, only because of the immense kindness, God is showing on us from our **infinite births**. If we fail to show our gratitude to him by following our Dharma in this present human life, then we are the only losers. So, firstly we must train our mindset to see him inside ourselves by earning his proper knowledge and devotion towards him. Then gradually, we will be able to think of his **omnipresence**.

Earlier, we have seen how serving the needy people, animals etc. is one of the main services, we can offer to the God. In the same way, by offering our sincere prayers to **omnipresent God**, we can wish for the **welfare** of the society. By understanding these aspects, we must lead our life and make this an effective one!

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| PANCHAMA SKANDA |

|| SANDESHA - 33 ||

| IMPORTANCE OF SENSE CONTROL ! |

Lord Vedavyasa has stressed the importance of control of our senses, by describing the story of King Priyavrata. Svayambhuva Manu, the father of **Priyavrata**, ordered his son to adorn the throne of his Kingdom. But, Priyavrata humbly rejected the words of his father and replied - " By taking the responsibility of the kingdom, it'll not be possible for me to properly think of God and do my spiritual duties! So, i'm not interested in ruling this kingdom. I'll become a sage and will go to forest to do **penance** and obtain the enlightenment! "

Hearing this, his grandfather **lord Brahmadeva** himself came and gave him some preachings, which gives us a wonderful message - " Each and every individual is assigned with some **duties**. Doing them with the **intention** of pleasing the supreme God, itself is a penance! Simply if you go the forest, you cannot become a sage. A person who is completely involved in these worldly pleasures, mentally, even if he goes to forest, he cannot attain enlightenment. If we do not have **control** over the six elements Lust, Anger etc., which are residing inside ourselves, then even if we go to the forest, we'll surely be attracted towards the city itself! When you have the control over these senses, then even if you reside in your palace itself, you can live like a sage. Hence, by understanding this, you must take the responsibility of this kingdom. " After hearing this, Priyavrata became a King and ruled his kingdom gloriously.

A story with the same concept can be seen - There was a religious king. One day, a **sage** came to him and asked - " O king, every one tells that you are very religious. Day and night, you are only looking after this kingdom. Where do you get the time to think of God? How can you become so religious? " Instead of answering him straightly, the king gave him a **oil lamp** and told him - " Have a look at my palace and come, there are various amazing paintings and other beautiful things. But remember, the lamp you are holding should **not** be turned off! " The sage went around the complete palace and came back after some time. Then the king asked him - "Did you see everything ? " The sage replied that although he saw everything, he couldn't look at them very clearly, as he had to be ensured that lamp he was holding wouldn't turn off. On hearing this, the **king** told him - "This is the answer for all your earlier questions! Like this oil lamp, i too possess a lamp filled with my duties and devotion towards god! Hence, even though i'm looking after this kingdom, always my **complete vision** will be on my lamp. As a result, i have become more religious! "

From these stories, we can see how **sense control** and **duty consciousness** plays a vital role in the path of enlightenment. Hence, we must try to control our senses by **involving** ourselves in our assigned duties, earning the knowledge of God and thereby developing devotion towards him. Only then, the place of our residence, never matters in this spiritual journey!

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|| SANDESHA - 34 ||

| LORD VRISHABHA'S MESSAGE ! |

Lord Narayana himself incarnated as the son of King Naabhi, and was named as **Vrishabha**, because of his unparalleled qualities. Omniscient God, just for the sake of worldly matters, completed all the formalities of education and other duties of Brahmacharya ashrama and then married **Jayanthi** and got hundred sons. He then named his eldest son as '**Bharata**', who was highly filled with all the good qualities. Because of this Bharata only our country got the name of "**Bhaarat**".

Keeping all his sons and other good people in front of him, **Lord Vrishabha** has given amazing messages to the mankind. We'll have a look at very few of them - ಮಹತ್ಸೇವಾಂ ದ್ವಾರಮಾಹುವಿಮುಕ್ತಿಃ ತಮೋ ದ್ವಾರಂ ಯೋಷಿತಾಂ ಸಂಗಿಸಂಗಮ್....!! One who has overcome all the evil qualities like anger, enviousness etc. and has gained various good qualities like calmness, proper knowledge of god, control over the senses etc. is a '**Sajjana**'. When a knowledge seeker involves himself in the company of such wise men, his path to the enlightenment becomes more easier! If he joins the company of people who are completely involved in these worldly pleasures, he'll surely fail to achieve his main goal of attaining salvation.

To get rid off this ocean of Samsaara, we must get rid off this gender body (Linga Sharira) , Lord Vrishabha have given his ideas - ಸರ್ವತ್ರ ಮದ್ಭಾವವಿಚಕ್ಷಣೇನ ಜ್ಞಾನೇನ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ವಿರಾಜಿತೇನ....!! One who possess the **proper knowledge** of supremacy, omnipresence and omniscience of God, has the firm belief in Vaishnava philosophy and is free of egoness : Only such a person can get rid off this Linga Sharira and thereby attain salvation!

Who are our real parents ? Who are all our relatives ? Who is our real Guru ? Just for the sake of being responsible for granting us this body and helping us to become wealthy in this worldly life, parents cannot be called so. Just for the sake of showing goodwill towards us, relatives cannot be called so. Just for the sake of leading this temporary life happily, a person who guides us by educating, cannot be termed as a real guru. Lord Vrishabha highlights the importance of the roles of these people, in the life of a person - ಗುರುರ್ನ ಸ ಸ್ಯಾತ್ ಸ್ವಜನೋ ನ ಸ ಸ್ಯಾತ್ | ಪಿತಾ ನ ಸ ಸ್ಯಾತ್ ಜನನೀ ನ ಸ ಸ್ಯಾತ್....!! If these people doesn't show the right meaning of this Samsaara which is completely filled with sorrowness, sadness etc. and thereby fails to guide us in the path of earning the knowledge of and devotion towards God, then the **responsibilities** associated with their roles remains uncompleted!

By understanding all these preachings of Lord Vrishabha, we must try to implement them in our lives, as much as possible, and make this life an effective one.

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|| SANDESHA - 35 ||

| IMPACT OF THE OVER - ATTACHMENT ! |

King Bharata, the eldest son of Lord Vrishabha ruled his kingdom for several years, in a grand manner. Under his rule, the kingdom gained the prosperity, not only externally but also spiritually! After handing over the kingdom to his sons, King Bharata who was highly interested in **spirituality** left to the forest, to do the penance. He reached the sacred ashram of Pulaha rishi. His daily routine involved taking bath thrice in a day, in the Chakra river of today's Nepal, doing sandhyavandanam, thinking of the God etc. One day when he was doing penance, a **pregnant deer** came near the river to quench the thirst. At the same moment, a tiger which was very nearby, roared so loudly that this deer got completely frightened. Because of this anxiety, the deer forcibly started to jump from one place to another. As a result, the heavy weighing womb came out of it and fell in that river. Because of this immense pain and scare from the tiger, the deer died there itself.

This **baby deer** (fawn), which had fallen in the river, started floating along the river. On seeing this fawn, the kind hearted Bharata rescued it from being washed away. He then started taking **extreme care** of that fawn. In taking care of this fawn only, he started spending the whole day. His attachment towards it started growing to such an extent, that he totally forgot about his purpose of coming to the forest and instead of thinking of the real **orphanated relative**, supreme Lord Vishnu, he started completely thinking of that orphan fawn itself. Wherever he went, he would take that fawn along with him. When doing meditation, instead of closing his eyes and thinking of God, he would look only at the moments of that fawn. Because of this immense kindness of Bharata, the baby deer started crying and offered its gratitude to him. As a result, Bharata's heart was much more touched with this act of the fawn. Finally, because of this **over - attachment** towards this fawn, thinking of it only, Bharata breathed his last. As Lord Krishna has described in Srimalad Bhagavadgita - ಯಂ ಯಂ ವಾಪಿ ಸ್ಮರನ್ ಭಾವಂ ತ್ಯಜತ್ಯಂತೇ ಕಲೇವರಮ್...!! Whatever we think in our final stages of this life, we'll be born as that only in our next birth! If we think of only God in our life's final stages, we'll surely attain the lotus feet of God only. Instead of thinking of God, if we die by thinking of our dog, in our next birth, we'll surely be born as a dog! In this case, Bharata who died of constantly thinking of the deer, took his next birth born as a deer itself.

At the **beginning**, a man consumes alcohol, according to his wish. But gradually after some time, the alcohol itself consumes that man! In the same way, here Bharata who fed the fawn because of kindness, gradually got over attached to it and lost his **capacity of discretion**! From this story of king Bharata, we can understand why our scriptures has **stressed** on developing detachment towards these worldly pleasures and attachment towards the supreme God, who is our sole protector! So, we must try to move forward in this path.

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|| SANDESHA - 36 ||

| SANTATAM CHINTAYE ANANTAM ! |

King Bharata, because of his over - attachment towards the fawn, took birth as a **deer** in his next life. Because of all the good deeds and other spiritual achievements which he had done in his previous life, even though possessing the form of a deer, Bharata had the knowledge about all his previous births. Learning from his previous mistakes, Bharata in the form of a deer, never joined the groups of other deers. He would always **stay lonely** and think of God. After spending his entire life in the same way, the deer died at the banks of Gandaki Teertha.

Because of all his good works, Bharata was then born in a brahmin's family, in his next birth. King Bharata himself then became '**Jadabharata**'. Even though he was born with the complete realisation of God and possessed all the qualities of a normal human, in the vision of the world, he appeared as a **sluggish** one! Although he remembered all the mistakes which he had done in his previous births, he wanted overcome them and attain the lotus feet of the supreme God, so he purposefully appeared like that. With the fear of developing over attachment towards these worldly pleasures, he completely restricted himself from getting attached to anything. The **lifestyle** of Jadabharata was so odd that he would eat whatever he got, he would sleep anywhere, sometimes he would wander everywhere without any clothes, like animals. All the people would scold him, beat him, call him as deaf, dumb, crazy etc. Without responding for any comments, he simply tolerated everything and lead the life.

One day, a king belonging to the shoodra caste, with the purpose of getting a child had organised a pooja of sacrificing a human, to please the **goddess BhadraKaali**. When the servants of the king were searching for a right person for the sacrifice, they noticed Jadabharata, who was sitting nearby. They immediately took him to the place where the event was organised and tied him to a pole. Jadabharata who was unaffected by all these happenings, remained calm and acted according to the orders of those servants. When the tamasa minded shoodra king came forward to cut the head of this **Aparoksha Jnaani** Jadabharata, goddess Bhadrakaali who herself was a devotee and **servant** of Lord Narayana, got angered by this act of the king and killed him along with all his followers and **rescued** Jadabharata, who was free of any anxiety because of constant thinking of God!

From this incident, we can understand that one who completely surrenders at the feet of God and constantly thinks about him, not only **obtains** the complete blessings of and protection from God, but also through his devotees. So irrespective of our any situation, we must try to think of **omnipresent God** all the time, to obtain his blessings!

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|| SANDESHA - 37 ||

| NAHAM KARTA ! HARIH KARTA ! |

Earlier, we have seen how Goddess Bhadrakaali rescued Jadabharata, from the hands of a shoodra king. The king of Sindhusoumeera prominence, **Rahoogana** decided to go to the ashrama of **Lord Kapila** with the intention of getting the Tattvopadesha from him. To carry him through the **palanquin**, there was a shortage of one servant. When they were travelling by looking for a suitable person who would be capable to assist them, they noticed this **Jadabharata** who had a well built body and ordered him to assist them. Without any hesitation, Jadabharata joined them in carrying the palanquin.

How an alcohol addict completely loses his senses and forgets this world, in the same way, this Jadabharata who was completely immersed in the **devotion** of supreme God, had totally forgot about these worldly happenings! As a result, he was not carrying the palanquin properly. Because of this, the palanquin started to **shake** and the king who was sitting inside the palanquin lost his balance. The king got angered by this and shouted at his servants to carry the palanquin properly. Other three servants who were properly carrying the palanquin told him that they were carrying the same properly and it was because of this Jadabharata, who was not carrying the same properly, that this palanquin was shaking. On hearing this, the king first warned him. But when he neglected his warnings and continued to carry the palanquin improperly, the king started scolding him **sarcastically** - " With your thin body, you are single

handedly carrying this palanquin, that too for a very far destination. Old age is also troubling you no. So sad of you! "

Jadabharata, even after hearing such scoldings from the king for multiple times, never replied to him. On seeing this act of Jadabharata, the king got much more angered on him and told - " I'll give you a suitable punishment! Even though you are living, you are acting as if you are dead. You are insulting me! You are disrespecting the king's order. I'll kill you! " On hearing this, Jadabharata who was acting as **dumb** till now, then opened his mouth and started preaching to the king - " O king, your complaint on me of not carrying this palanquin properly, is very true. But the truth is, i'm not the one who is carrying this palanquin! I'm not the one who is walking. How can me, who don't have independence to do anything, possess the capacity to do these things? **Supreme, Omnipresent and Omniscient god**, who is solely, independently responsible for all the activities of the universe, is the one who is making me do all these things, according to my aptitude! All these diseases, hunger, thirst, anxiety, laziness, anger etc. are solely for those who has **attachment** to this eternal body! These things does not have any effect on a person like me, who has no attachment towards it. So, i'm untouched by any of your scoldings! "

By this incident, we can understand the **adverse effects** of our attachment towards the eternal body. Usually, when we do some good deeds, we think we are the sole doers and feel as if we are very great, when someone praises us. When some bad deeds are done by us and we are hated or scolded by someone, we get completely depressed. So, we must try to reduce the attachment towards our body, by doing our duties by thinking about our lowness and **unparallel greatness** and kindness of God!

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|| SANDESHA - 38 ||

| ATTACHMENT IN 'DETACHMENT' ! |

On seeing the **mysterious** behaviour of the wise man Jadabharata, Rahoogana, who had mistaken him as a useless person, realised his mistake and came out of his palanquin. Seeing this wisdom of Jadabharata, Rahoogana who was going to the ashrama of Lord Kapila to get the **tattvopadesha**, surrendered at the feet of Jadabharata and accepted him as his guru in the spiritual journey and asked him few questions.

Jadabharata answered him - " Rahoogana, our **mind** is mainly responsible for all the activities of our life! If we control our mind, then the chances of getting anger, anxiety, doing fraud, showing arrogance etc. does not exist. To lead a happy life and to develop devotion in the **supreme God**, controlling our mind plays a **vital** role. By earning the proper knowledge of God, we must try to **overcome** the attractions of these worldly pleasures. A wet wood would give more smoke than brightness, but a dry wood gives more bright light and less smoke. Likewise, a mind untuned leads us to sorrowfulness. Once it is tuned by the **Tattvagnaana**, it automatically guides us properly to lead a prosperous life. Along with these, we must try to reduce the arrogance and fascination, which are our main **enemies** in the life of a knowledge seeker."

He further explains the concept of relationship between our mind and body - " When our mind possess the **attachment** over the body, we'll surely experience all the ignorance, cold, hot and other external factors that influence our body. But, when the attachment between our mind and body reduces, rate of experiencing all those external factors automatically **reduces**! When we understand that this **body and soul** are entirely different and the soul has its own personality, then whatever praises or scoldings we receive from others does not make any impact on us. Our mind will be tuned in such a way that we would have developed the **capacity** to receive those praises or scoldings, without seeing any difference

between them! Attachment is the **root cause** for all our problems, when we completely **detach** from this worldly matters by the proper knowledge and blessings of god, then only we can lead this life happily. "

Everyday we would be hearing the news of accidents and other such tragedies, that would be happening regularly. However these things would not bother us much, untill there is an **involvement** of our relatives or other known persons in such accidents. When we get to know that a known person is involved in such tragedies, then automatically we get anxiety and start gathering more information about the tragedy and try to rescue them! This **influence** of 'attachment' towards the world leads us to the disastrous life. By understanding the awful effects of this attachment, instead of developing the same with the worldly matters, we must develop **detachment** towards them and increase our **attachment towards god**, who blesses us to get rid off this samsaara.

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|| SANDESHA - 39 ||

| JADABHARATA'S TATTVOPADESHA ! |

After explaining the effects of attachment to Rahoogana, Jadabharata further describes the **awful nature** of this samsaara. Our **life** itself is like a **dense forest**. In a forest, it is not possible to go through the path filled with thorns. There is continuous attack from various wild animals, unpredictable environmental conditions etc. Because of all these, there will be **fear** always. As a result, it'll not be possible for us to get out of this forest easily. Similar is the situation of this samsaara! Highly influenced by the **three qualities** of Satva, Rajas and Tamas, the jeevas have been jailed in this repeating cycle of samsaara. Various problems and our previous lifes' karmas, in the form of thorns, have been **preventing** us to travel in the path of enlightenment. Like the attack from wild animals, everyday we will be facing the attacks from the six enemies lust, anger etc, which are residing inside us. Like the attack from various environmental changes, we have become blind by the influence of 'attachment'. From this **precious** human life only, we'll be able to get rid off this samsaara. By serving our gurus, we should obtain their blessings and move in the path of salvation. A guide is necessary to help us to travel in the dense forest, similarly to travel in this forest called '**life**', a guru's guidance plays a vital role.

A man, when travelling in a deep forest, fell into a pothole, filled with grass and thorns. He started shouting for help. A wise man, who was travelling nearby heard his voice and kind heartedly helped him to come out of that pothole and further guided him the path to reach his destination. In the same way, we jeevas are **travelling** in this samsaara, with the **intention** of obtaining god's blessings. However, by the continuous attacks from our six enemies, we have lost our direction in the path of enlightenment and have fallen in the potholes(infinite problems) of this samsaara. When a **guru**, who has the capacity to guide us in this path by preaching us the proper knowledge, helps us, only then we can get rid off this samsaara!

From all these preachings of Jadabharata, Rahoogana got the answers for all his questions, in the spiritual path. As a token of respect, he offered his prayers and pranams to him. From these preachings of Jadabharata, we must understand the importance of a guru. We are very lucky to have got numerous **aparoksha jnaanis** themselves as our gurus. To mention a few of them - Vishwaguru Acharya Madhwa, Sri Jayateertharu, Sri Vyasarajaru, Sri Vadirajaru, Sri Raghavendra guru Sarvabhoulmaru etc. By sincerely serving them and implementing their messages, in our lives, we can obtain their blessings and thereby get rid off this samsaara by attaining salvation!

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|| SANDESHA - 40 ||

| IMPORTANCE OF KALIYUGA ! |

Lord Vedavyasa has beautifully described the greatness of this Bharata Khanda, in this Srimad Bhagavata - ಕಲ್ಪಾಯುಷಾಂ ಸ್ಥಾನಜಯಾತ್ಮನರ್ಭವಾತ್ ಕ್ಷಣಾಯುಷಾಂ ಭಾರತಭೂಜಯೋ ವರಃ...!! Even living for a single moment in this 'Bhaarat' is far better than living in other countries for thousand years! All the angels right from **supreme Lord Narayana** has incarnated in this sacred land of Bhaarat and has increased the importance of this holy land. We must also learn the importance of this **Kaliyuga**. In Kruta yuga, the good fruits(Punya) received after doing many good deeds was very less. But, in this Kaliyuga, even for less good deeds, the good fruits we receive is very huge and also the bad fruits (Paapa) we receive after doing many sins is very less!

An incident in **Mahabharat** helps us to understand the importance of Kaliyuga - There was a fierce battle between Arjuna and Karna. **Arjuna** with his amazing prowess easily pushed back the Karna's chariot to a very far distance of around hundred yojans. Replying to this attack of Arjuna, **Karna** who was also very strong, using his amazing skills attacked him through his arrows. As a result, Arjun's chariot which was charioted by Lord Krishna just moved two yojans back. **Lord Krishna** appreciated Karna for his great effort. Arjuna on seeing this, got angered and objected lord Krishna - " O Krishna, what is this injustice? I've pushed Karna's chariot to such a far distance from my arrows, he has pushed back my chariot only by two yojans. Instead of praising me, you are praising him! This is not right! "

On hearing this, Lord Krishna replied - " Arjuna, your effort of pushing back the chariot of Karna is not an act of much importance! It is a **normal chariot** made of wood. But your chariot, whose weight is almost equal to that of this terrestrial. Also you are possessing the great '**Ghaandeeva Bow**', Lord Hanuman is residing in the flag of your chariot, and more important than all these, i myself who is the supreme one, is your charioteer! In spite of possessing all these **importance** and greatness, he has managed to push your chariot at least for a small distance! For this great effort of his, I appreciated him. "

This story is **highly applicable** to our present situation. Kruta yuga was a good one, doing good deeds was a normal activity there. Everyone would do that. Such it does not deserve such importance. It is like Arjuna pushing back the normal chariot of Karna, very far. But, in this Kaliyuga, which is almost completely filled with **evilness** almost everywhere, doing even a small good deed, has great importance! It is like Karna pushing the great chariot of Arjuna for a very small distance. ಸ್ವಲ್ಪಮಪ್ಯಸ್ಯ ಧರ್ಮಸ್ಯ ತ್ರಾಯತೇ ಮಹತೋ ಭಯಾತ್...!! By understanding this greatness of Kaliyuga, we the children of this holy land Bhaarat, must try to do good deeds as much as possible.

ಪ್ರೀತೋಽಸ್ಮು ಕೃಷ್ಣಪ್ರಭುಃ

| SHASHTA SKANDA |

|| SANDESHA - 41 ||

| SOLUTION FOR ALL OUR MISTAKES ?! |

After hearing about various types of hells which a man may enter because of his infinite mistakes, **King Parikshita** asked Sri Shukacharya, if there were any permanent solution to overcome those mistakes. **Sri Shukacharya** replied that by **repenting** for his mistakes and by not repeating the same in the future, one

can overcome his mistakes. On hearing this, king Parikshita **astonishingly** asked him - " O lord, if all the mistakes done by a **culprit** gets washed away just by repenting for it, then it is like a boon for him no? Everytime after doing the mistake, he may repent for it and again do some other mistake! This cycle is like all the **elephants** taking **bath** in the river for a long time and then immediately **pouring mud** on themselves, while coming out of the river. In this case, there is no value to the bath taken by those elephants. Similarly, if the culprit keeps on repenting and doing the bad things again and again, then what is the **use** of repenting? "

Sri Shukacharya gives a wonderful answer - " O king, if we consume good food in the **right manner**, then the chances of getting diseases does not exist! Instead of consuming more food because of greediness and then taking medicines to overcome the diseases, eating according to our limit by **controlling** our senses, is a good prevention. In the same way, instead of repenting after doing the mistakes, we must implement various **good qualities** like brahmacharya, penance, self control, sacrifice etc. , in our lives and lead this precious life in a good manner. By mistake, if any mistake happen, we must ensure that it is not repeated again. If we lead our life in a good manner by developing immense **devotion** in supreme Lord Narayana, then like a fire stick burning hundreds of pieces of wood, all our sins will be destroyed by the blessings of our **Lord Sri Hari**! Chanting the name of the God with immense devotion, all the time, by thinking of his greatness, is the **ultimate solution** to get rid off all the sins! "

After giving this beautiful message, as a perfect example for this, Sri Shukacharya further describes the story of a brahmin named **Ajamila**, which we'll see in our next sandesha. By understanding the importance of God and also about various good qualities, we must try to implement them in our lives to make this an effective one.

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|| SANDESHA - 42 ||

|THE AJAMILA UPAKHYANA ! |

Sri Shukacharya, while explaining the importance of chanting the name of supreme Lord Narayana, has narrated the story of Ajamila, to the king **Parikshit**. In a place called Kanyakubja, there resided a brahmin by name **Ajamila**, who was a very **religious person**. One day, as per his father's orders, Ajamila went to the forest to collect the pieces of wood and other related items. There, on seeing a beautiful woman who belonged to a lower caste, he got **attracted** by her beauty to such a level that he completely forgot about all his previous religious life and fell prey to her. As a result, he married her and completely involved in a lustful life. He started leading his life with her by **enjoying** all the worldly pleasures and also became a father to ten children. As a result of all this, he completely lost his **track** of the precious life. After spending his lifetime of around eighty years in this manner, he reached the death bed.

As his death became closer, the servants of **Lord Yama**, came to him to take him to their place. Ajamila got highly scared on seeing them and started calling his **last son**, Narayana, to rescue him from the cluster of these Yamadootas. As soon he called his son's name **Narayana**, because of his karma of doing good deeds earlier, Ajamila immediately got the **thought** of supreme **Lord Narayana**. As a result, the **servants** of Lord Narayana, possessing a divine form, appeared in front of him and prevented the servants of Lord Yama, from taking him.

The servants of Lord Yama got astonished on seeing these servants of Lord Vishnu and questioned them - " Who are you? From where did you come? Why are you preventing us from taking him to our place? " On hearing this, the servants of Lord Vishnu also re-questioned them. Yamadootas later started shouting - " He

has done many **bad deeds**, he is fit to go to **hell** only. So, allow us to take him! " In return to this, Vishnudootas exclaimed - " Even though he tried to call his son Narayana, at that moment he has thought about Lord Narayana, so he is fit to be taken to our place ! " Ultimately, Yamadootas accepted their defeat in this debate and left the place.

Ajamila, who was seeing all these quarrelling between these two groups, in his dreams, realised his mistakes and highly **repented** for the same. He thought - " Just by chanting the name of the God, that too only once, Vishnudootas came to me to take me with them. If i completely involve myself in thinking about the God, then surely i can obtain the lotus feet of Lord Sri Hari! " Immediately, with the **intention** of obtaining the blessings of God, he left for the banks of holy river Ganges, to do penance.

From this story, we can understand the **greatness** of chanting the name of Lord Narayana. If God could prevent his devotee from going to hell, will he not help us to get rid off this samsara? So, by thinking of this **immense kindness** of God in every moment of our precious life, we must lead our life.

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|| SANDESHA - 43 ||

| HOW TO ATTAIN ENLIGHTENMENT ?! |

After learning about the outline story of Ajamila, there may be chances for arising of **misconception**. Just by chanting the name of Lord Vishnu, how can one get rid off all his sins and attain enlightenment? If obtaining salvation would be so easy, then everybody would think that we can involve ourselves in doing evil things through out the life time and finally at the end of our lives, if we can chant the name of the God, we can attain salvation! For this reason, we must properly understand the story of Ajamila.

After realising about his mistakes and repenting for the same, **Ajamila** immediately sacrificed everything and left for the banks of river Ganges. After doing **penance** for many years, he finally obtained the blessings of God and attained enlightenment. This story does not give the message that just by chanting the name of God, we can attain salvation. If we think that attaining enlightenment is such an easy task, then surely we can move further in this path. By showing the **immense effects** of forgetting God, it also highlights the **importance** of chanting the name of supreme lord Narayana.

On the other side, after getting defeated at the hands of Vishnudootas, **Yamadootas** went back to their place and asked their lord Yamadeva - " O Lord, One side you **control** us, on the other side Vishnudootas control us. Still how many of them are there above us to control us? How should we follow your order? We're totally confused! " On hearing this, **lord Yama** replied - " Myself, lord Indra, Nirruti, Prachetasa, Soma, Fire god, lord Shiva, lord Vayu, Sun god, lord Brahma, Vishwedevatas, Vasus, Saadhyaru, Marudganas, Rudraganas - we everyone are the **servants** of supreme Lord Vishnu! As per his orders, we all do our duties. How cows and calves are controlled by the rope tied to them, similarly **Lord Sri Hari** is controlling all of us! We must abide by his orders, we don't have any rights to oppose it and touch a person who is involved in leading his life, by doing all the duties assigned to him to please the God! Bring only those persons who does not possess devotion in God - ಜಿಹ್ವಾ ನ ವಕ್ತ್ರಿ ಭಗವದ್ಗುಣನಾಮಧೇಯಂ...!! Persons, whose tongue does not chant the name of the God, whose mind never thinks about God, whose head does not surrender at the feet of God and his devotees - Instead of bringing such persons, you tried to bring Ajamila, who chanted the name of God with devotion! From next time don't repeat this mistake. "

When we give more importance to God in our **life**, then the chances of doing mistakes will be less. For doing all other **rituals** mentioned in our scriptures, there might be certain rules and regulations to be

followed. But chanting the name of the God does not require any such special rules to be followed. By understanding this, irrespective of our situations, we must involve ourselves in chanting the name of God, in every moment of our life, to get **provoked** to do good deeds as much as possible and ultimately obtain his blessings to attain **enlightenment**!

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|| SANDESHA - 44 ||

| IMPORTANCE OF PROPER KNOWLEDGE ! |

Daksha prajapati, the son of Lord Brahmadeva, again took birth to continue the process of creation. In order to obtain the blessings of supreme Lord Narayana, he went to place near Vindhya mountains, to do penance. After praising the **greatness of God** in various ways, Lord Vishnu who was pleased by these prayers, appeared in front of him and ordered him to marry a religious girl, **Asikni**, to continue the creation of mankind. As per the orders of God, Daksha prajapati married Asikni and got ten thousand sons from her, who were named as '**Hariyashwas**'. Later Daksha ordered all of them to continue the process of creation. With the intention of following the orders of their father, Hariyashwas went to a holy place called '**Narayanasaras**' and started doing penance, to obtain the blessings of God.

Narada maharshi who was travelling in that region, saw these Hariyashwas who were doing penance and went near them and interrupted - " Hariyashwas! What is this? Without earning the proper knowledge of God, you have started meditating on him. Without learning about these ten things, you cannot obtain the blessings of God! Do you know about these things? - 1) Which is the end of this **world** ? 2) Which is the **state**, where there is only one person ? 3) Which is the **hole**, through which we cannot come back after entering the same ? 4) Who is the woman, who is practising **adultery** ? 5) Who is the **husband** of this woman ? 6) Which is the **river**, that flows in both the directions ? 7) Which is the **house**, that is filled with 25 amazing things ? 8) Which is the **swan**, that is telling a strange story ? 9) Which is the **wheel**, that is rotating very sharply ? 10) What are the **orders** of your father ?

Do you know answers for theses questions ? If you know the answers for these, only then you can obtain the blessings of supreme God !" Hariyashwas, who couldn't even understand these questions, **surrendered** at the feet of Narada maharshi and pleaded him to explain the answers for those questions. Do we know the answers for these questions? It's obviously a big '**NO**'. Without understanding these basic things related to God, if we simply involve ourselves in doing various spiritual practices **mechanically**, then that will be like doing a yagna in water! So, we must try to earn the knowledge of God at the earliest, by surrendering at the feet of our **Gurus**. Only then, all the rituals performed by us will get proper meaning.

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|| SANDESHA - 45 ||

| PREACHINGS OF NARADA MAHARSHI ! |

After Hariyashwas surrendered and pleaded him to answer those ten questions, **Naradi maharshi** started explaining - " 1) The world's end means, the **gender body** (linga shareera) which has been attached to this jeeva, from infinite time. How a bird comes out of the egg by breaking it and flies freely, similarly when the jeeva gets rid off this gender body and attains freeness, that itself is **Salvation**! 2) The entire

universe itself is the residence of Supreme God, who is independently responsible for all the activities of this universe. Without his presence, nothing else can exist. The right knowledge of this omnipresent God is very much necessary to obtain **enlightenment**.

3) The hole, through which we cannot come back after entering, is nothing but God and salvation. As soon as the **jeeva** attains the **lotus feet** of Lord Narayana, it will never come back to this samsaara!
4) Woman, who is involved in adultery means our own **wit**! It travels around all the attractive things like a prostitute. What are the duties that will help us to uproot ourselves? By understanding these responsibilities, we must try to **control** our wit. 5) We **ourselves**, are the husbands to this wit. If we follow a properly trained mind, then **God** will be **incarnated** in our hearts! Without his blessings, we cannot attain enlightenment. 6) This **samsaara** itself is a river, that travels in both the sides, i.e. birth and death. These two are continuously throwing us from one side to another side! As a result, we are not at all able to come out from this river! Only **God's knowledge** will help us to come out of this! 7) This **world** itself is a place filled with twenty five amazing things! Great principles, the principle of egoism, wit, the mind, ten sense organs, the five tropics, the five elements and God - all these are the **twenty five principles** of this world.

8) The **swan**, which tells a story is nothing but our **ancient scriptures** like Bhagavata, Mahabharata etc. These works guides us by giving the proper knowledge of God. 9) Sharply rotating wheel is nothing but this **wheel of time**, which is rotating from infinite time. We all have got trapped in this! 10) Our **father** is supreme God himself and his **orders** are nothing but Shaastras - ಶ್ರುತಿ ಸ್ತುತಿ ಹರೇರಾಜೇ ಯ ಉಲ್ಲಂಘ್ಯ ಪ್ರವರ್ತತೇ....!! “

After hearing all these preachings, **Hariyashwas** developed more devotion towards God and with the intention of obtaining his complete blessings, they became **monks** and continued their spiritual journey. Later, '**Shabalashwas**', the thousand sons of Daksha also followed the same path as their brothers. As a result, Daksha's intention of continuing the creation couldn't continue. Angered by the act of Narada maharshi, Daksha cursed him and further got sixty daughters from his wife Asikni and later married all of them to various Devatas and thus the process of creation continued. By understanding the importance of knowledge, we must utilise this precious life to earn more and more knowledge about God, to get his complete blessings.

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|| SANDESHA - 46 ||

| EFFECT OF GURU'S BETRAYAL ! |

Once, **lord Devendra** was busy along with his wife Shyamala devi, in the council hall. At the same time, the guru of suras, **Brihaspati acharya** came there. Even though he learnt about his guru's arrival, Devendra neglected him by not showing him any respect. Even though the **aptitude** of Devendra is much more higher than that of Brihaspati acharya, he had to show his respects to him, as he was his guru. But because of egoism, Devendra did not do so. Understanding this behaviour of Devendra, Brihaspati acharya immediately left the place, without speaking anything. Later, on realising his mistake, Devendra went to the place of Brihaspati acharya to appologise. But, Brihaspati acharya, who got to know about the arrival of Devendra, **purposefully** disappeared through his yogic powers !

On learning this incident of **insult** to the guru of **Suras**, the **asuras** thought of utilizing this oppurtunity and attacked them. Without the guidance from a guru, the suras failed to face the asuras in the battle, and finally **got defeated** at their hands. As a result, all the Devatas under the leadership of Devendra approached **lord Brahmadeva**, who insisted them to consider Vishwaroopa acharya as their guru.

As per the orders of Brahmadeva, all the devatas approached **Vishwaroopa acharya** and prayed him to become their guru. After refusing the opportunity initially, finally Vishwaroopa acharya accepted the post of guru of the devatas. He later preached the powerful mantra '**Narayana kavacha**' to Devendra. Later, after regaining their strength by obtaining the blessings of Lord Narayana, all the suras attacked and **defeated** the asuras and got back all their wealth.

Vishwaroopa acharya had **three** faces. From one face, he used to drink **Somaras**. From second face, he used to take food. Even though he was a knowledgeable man, through his third face, he used to consume **Alcohol**. On learning this evil act of his guru, even though he knew that it was a mistake, Devendra **killed** him, with the intention of preventing the Suras and the entire society from getting injustice. As a result of committing this brutal sin, he got **Brahmahatya dosha**, which he later distributed to the trees, water, Earth and women and later also blessed all of them with some boons.

Initially for **disrespecting** his guru Brihaspatya acharya, Devendra along with all his followers, had to face all these difficult consequences. There is good saying - If god is angered on us, then a guru's prayers can calm down him. But if a guru himself is angered on us, then even God will not calm him down. By understanding this **importance** of a gurus, we must always show our utmost respects to them, to obtain the blessings of God.

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|| SANDESHA - 47 ||

| DADICHI RISHI'S SACRIFICE ! |

Tvashtu prajapati, the father of Vishwaroopa acharya, on hearing the news about the death of his son, got angered on Devendra. With the purpose of getting a son who has the capacity to kill Devendra, Tvashtu began a yagna. But, god had some other plans. Because of **wrongly chanting** the vedamantras, instead of an asura who has the capacity to kill Devendra, an asura named 'Vritrasura', who would die at the hands of **Devendra** was born! The power of vedamantras is very immense, hence we must be highly awakened while chanting the same. Even a small mistake can lead to a huge disaster!

The form of **Vritrasura** itself was very evil - He possessed Red hairs, arrow like fur, very dark fearful face etc. He began to conquer the entire world and also started **frightening** the Devatas. These devatas threw all their weapons on him to avoid him, but he swallowed all those weapons and continued troubling them. All the worried devatas approached supreme **Lord Narayana** and prayed him to help them get rid off this torture from Vritrasura.

Dadichi rishi was a tapasvi, who would always think for the welfare of the society. He would continuously chant the powerful '**Narayana kavacha**' mantra, as a result all his bones had become very strong! So, God ordered the devatas to prepare a **weapon** with these powerful bones of Dadichi rishi. As per the orders of God, all the devatas approached the rishi and narrated all the happenings. Kind hearted Dadichi rishi, who had sacrificed everything for doing penance, for the goodness of the society, readily accepted their request and decided to sacrifice his body. He said - "ಏತಾವಾನವ್ಯಯೋ ಧರ್ಮಃ ಪುಣ್ಯಶ್ಲೋಕೈರುಪಾಸಿತಃ....!! Others sadness is my own sadness. Others happiness itself is my happiness! One who thinks in this way is a **theologian**. They would do what they spoke. This is the all time Dharma! In this temporary life, we must help others, as much as possible. Only then this life would become an effective one."

Every day, we would strive very hard to enjoy our life by living happily. There is nothing great in this. When we strive hard for someone else's happiness, **greatness** resides there. We would be continuously getting one or the other thing from our society. But when it comes to serving the society in needy times, we move backwards and avoid our participation in the same. The level of **satisfaction** we obtain when we see happiness on someone else's face, would be unparalleled! By understanding the importance of helping nature from this story of Dadichi rishi, we must get inspired to help others, with whatever capacity God has given us and thereby obtain his blessings!

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|| SANDESHA - 48 ||

| VRITRASURA'S DESTRUCTION ! |

The sculptor of the Suras, **Vishwakarma** prepared a strong weapon named '**Vajrayudha**', by using the bones of Dadichi rishi. After taking this weapon, Lord **Devendra** along with all other suras attacked the asuras to take revenge on them. They destroyed all the weapons of the asuras. On seeing the powerful Vajrayudha, all the asuras started running here and there, to escape from it. On seeing this, their leader **Vritrasura** stopped them and told them few motivational words to provoke them to fight the battle. In spite of this, all the asuras fed away, without giving any heed to the words of their leader.

Ultimately, Vritrasura, whose was very powerful and possessed **scary form**, single handedly attacked the Devatas and started to roar very loudly. On hearing the atrocious roaring of this asura, all the devatas including their leader Devendra got frightened and started throwing their weapons on him. But, Vritrasura started catching those weapons and began throwing back on them! As a result, along with many devatas, even Devendra's elephant Airavata got hurt in this incident. Later Vritrasura started abusing Devendra and later **astonishingly** started speaking spiritually - "ಅಹಂ ಹರೇ ತವ ದಾಸಾನುದಾಸೋ ಭವಿತಾಽಸ್ಮಿ ಭೂಯಃ....!! O God, i'm your servant! Let my mind think of you. Let my tongue start praising your qualities! Let my hands and legs start doing the work which will please you. Let this Devendra **kill** me and help me attain your feet! Apart from this, i don't expect any other fruits like heaven, lordship etc. I'm very much eagerly waiting to see you! "

Even though he was an asura, Vritrasura in his previous birth was a king by name **Chitraketu**, who had got the preachings of Tattvagnaana by **Narada maharshi**. Because of **mocking** at looking at the complex posture of Lord Shiva and Goddess Parvati devi, he got a **curse** by Parvatidevi and was born as an asura. Only because of his earning the right knowledge in his previous lives, he could speak in this manner. On hearing these words from Vritrasura, even Devendra was stunned for some time. Later again the fight between them began. Devendra **chipped** off Vritrasura's both the hands and the legs. Angered by this, Vritrasura opened his huge mouth and swallowed Devendra, who was possessing the Vajrayudha. On seeing this, all the devatas were shocked and started screaming. Devendra, with the **special blessings** of Lord Narayana he had obtained by chanting the **Narayana kavcha** and also with his yogic powers, cut open the huge stomach of the Vritrasura through his vajarayudha and came out of the same. Finally, on seeing the death of this Vritrasura, all the suras rejoiced happily and started praising their leader Devendra for doing this great work.

From this story of Vritrasura, we can learn two things - 1) The **knowledge** we gain in this life does not stop after our death, it'll go on continuing in our future lives also. So, we must try to earn the proper knowledge of God, as much as possible in this precious life! 2) Only with the special blessings of **Lord**

Narayana, Devendra could kill the asura. So, to get rid off all the evil factors in and around us, we must try to obtain the special blessings of God, by serving him.

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| SAPTAMA SKANDA |

|| SANDESHA - 49 ||

| LORD NARAYANA'S IMPARTIALITY ! |

After hearing about the story of Vritrasura, **King Parikshit** questions Shukamuni - “ O muni, so far what i've heard from yourself is that **Lord Vishnu** is filled with infinite qualities and is completely **void** of any errors! But right now a doubt has arised. We all jeevas, who possess this naturistic body obviously possesses various natural characteristics like love, anger, partiality etc. But God who possesses a **chinmaya form** and is free from all this nature, appears as if he sometime acts like us only no ?! Like a rich man in this world, who shows much affection towards the people who suits his dignity and shows less care towards the poor people, God always shows more love and support towards the suras and help them defeat the asuras. If god is impartial, then why does he do this **partiality** between them? If god is free of all the errors and looks at everyone equally, then why is he doing like this? Please clarify me in this view. “

Sri Shukacharya answers him - “ O Parikshit, God is **standing beyond** all these selfishness, enmity, enviousness etc. Any praises or scoldings, has neutral effect on him. All the activities of this world are taking place only because of the influence of **three qualities** - Satva, Rajas and Tamas. If the influence of Satvaguna is more, obviously more and more good activities takes place in this world. If the influence of either Rajas or Tamas gunas are more, then everywhere we can see various evil acts like violence, friction etc. God, who is standing beyond all these qualities, controls them. All the **suras** are representatives of Satvaguna. As a result, God shows more love towards them. To help the growth of this satvaguna, God always supports the suras and help them defeat the **asuras**, who are the representatives of Rajasa and Tamasa gunas. Doing so, is the **self created duty** of God, so he does his duty which appears as though he is doing partiality. When you understand the intention of God, then the chances of doubt arising in this aspect, never appears! “

A patient suffering from stomach pain goes to the doctor. On thorough checkup, doctor comes to know about the extra growth of a flesh in the patient's stomach. For the well being of the patient, the doctor has to inevitably operate and remove that flesh from the patient's stomach. **Various asuras** like Ravana, Kumbhakarna, Hiranyakashipu etc. who give **immense trouble** to the good people and are like that extra flesh to this society. So for doing good for the society, god destroys all of them either directly by he himself **incarnating** in various forms or indirectly by **supporting** the suras. By understanding this immense kindness of supreme God on the entire mankind, we must earn his proper knowledge and develop devotion towards him!

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|| SANDESHA - 50 ||

| HIRANYAKASHIPU'S STUPIDITY ! |

After **Lord Varaha** killed asura Hiranyaksha, his brother **Hiranyakashipu** developed immense **enmity** on Lord Vishnu. With the intention of taking revenge on him, Hiranyakashipu told all his servants to go to the places where the **devotees** of Lord Narayana were residing and further ordered them to give immense troubles to all the Angels, Rishi-munis, Brahmins, cows etc. As per their lord's orders, all these servants of Hiranyakashipu started killing all of them and also began destroying everything.

However, Hiranyakashipu who was not satisfied by this, further with the **evil intention** of attacking even the supreme Lord Vishnu and all his servants, went to the forest to do penance and thereby to obtain the blessings of **Lord Brahmadeva**. His meditation was so **furious** that the entire universe got affected by its evil effects. All the wise men including all the suras got highly frightened by this act of Hiranyakashipu and approached Lord Brahmadeva and prayed him to help them get rid off this situation. As per all their prayers, lord Brahmadeva went to the place of Hiranyakashipu with the purpose of blessing him. However, even though he was standing there, Hiranyakashipu couldn't be seen because - ಸ ದದರ್ಶ ಪ್ರತಿಚ್ಛನ್ನಂ ವಲ್ಮೀಕತೃಣಕೀಚಕೈಃ...!! The entire body of Hiranyakashipu was covered by mud which was looking like a hill, built by all the ants. From this mud, vintage vines were grown all over! In spite of all this, Hiranyakashipu who was **unbroken** on achieving his goal of obtaining the boon of immortality from Lord Brahmadeva, had not stopped his penance.

Even though the intention of his penance was an evil one, on seeing this **dedication** of Hiranyakashipu, even Lord Brahmadeva's mind melted! With the purpose of blessing him, Lord Brahmadeva ordered him to ask for boons. Hiranyakashipu on seeing Lord Brahmadeva, offered his pranams and started to speak - " O lord! If you are pleased with my penance, please grant me with these boons - Firstly, i should **not die** from any of the animals which are **created** by you. I should not die either **inside or outside** of the house. My death should not occur in this **world, sky, in the morning nor in the night!** My death should not occur from any **humans, angels** etc. " The list of boons of Hiranyakashipu was in such a way that he wanted to achieve **immortality**. However, lord Brahmadeva who got nod for all these boons from his father Lord Narayana, granted him all these boons and disappeared. With an illusion of achieving immortality, Hiranyakashipu came back to his place and started giving trouble to everyone, much more immensely.

Hiranyakashipu is such a **fool**, if he had done even half of the penance he had done, with the intention of pleasing Lord Vishnu to attain salvation, he could have easily achieved that. But because of his **selfishness and evilness**, he failed to even think in that manner and ultimately got **trapped** in the web created by Lord Brahmadeva and lord Narayana! Our situation is also like that of this Hiranyakashipu. We strive really hard by doing various kinds of sacrifices, rituals etc. with the purpose of pleasing God to obtain some **temporary fruits** out of selfishness! As a result we continuously keep on wandering in this cycle of **samsaara** filled with happiness and sadness. We must do all our activities with the intention of purely pleasing the God, without expecting anything in return! Only then we can obtain his complete blessings and thereby attain enlightenment.

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|| SANDESHA - 51 ||

| PRAHALLADA'S INSPIRING QUALITIES ! |

After receiving various **boons** from Lord Brahmadeva, Hiranyakashipu's arrogance and furiousness rapidly increased. As a result, his evilness increased and he started giving more troubles to the devotees of Lord Vishnu. All the Devatas prayed the supreme Lord Narayana to help them get out of this fearful environment. God obliged positively to their prayers and assured his protection to them. He told them - “ಯದಾ ದೇವೇಷು ವೇದೇಷು ಗೋಷು ವಿಪ್ರೇಷು ಸಾಧುಷು....!! Whoever develops **enmity** in even any one of these - the holy Vedas, cows, suras, Brahmins, good people, Dharma and God : they will never be spared by me! In a short span, one of my upmost devotees will take birth in this Earth. When the **limit** of troubling to him by Hiranyakashipu **exceeds**, even though he is possessing so much boons, i'll surely kill him. You don't worry! “

As time passed, Hiranyakashipu got four sons from his wife Kayadu. **Prahalada** was his first son, whose various good qualities has made him so famous that he is highly described as '**Bhagavatottama**'. These qualities possessed by him have been beautifully described in this Srimad Bhagavata. The entire characteristics of Prahalada was completely **opposite** to that of his father. He was a very kind hearted person who's virtue and immense devotion in God was uncomparable! Whenever he would see the wise men, he would immediately offer his pranams to them by falling at their feet. He would see God in every one. He would help the needy people and would **highly respect** his gurus. Even though he possessed a beautiful form, immense wealth, proper knowledge about both God as well as the world, without any arrogance and enviousness, he would treat everyone equally. Whenever he would involve himself in specially praying the God, he would completely forget about any of the worldly happenings around him. To brief in a nutshell, Prahalada was like a **wealth of virtues**!

In this world, majority of people immensely love their children, irrespective of whether they are good or bad ones! Even if they develop various evil characteristics, just for possessing any one good quality, parents would be proud of their children. But the **behaviour** of Hiranyakashipu was completely upside down to this. His son was a wealth of good qualities, instead of recognising them and being proud of his son, this Hiranyakashipu developed **anger and enmity** over him! Such is the stupidity of this asura. Prahalada himself later took birth as **king Bahlika** during the period of Mahabharata, **Sri Vyasaraja guru sarvabhoumaru and Sri Raghavendra guru sarvabhoumaru** during this Kaliyuga. We can easily witness the same inspiring qualities in all these incarnations of Prahalada, when we look at the life histories of these great personalities. By learning all this, we must **surrender** ourselves at the feet of our gurus and try to implement those qualities as much as possible, according to our aptitude and make this precious life an effective one!

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|| SANDESHA - 52 ||

| PRAHALLADA'S DEVOTION IN GOD ! |

Hiranyakashipu admitted his son **Prahalada** to the Gurukulam, which was run by **Shanda and Marka**, who were the sons of purohit of Asuras, Sri Shukracharya. Even though he was residing in the Gurukulam, Prahalada who was a true devotee of Lord Vishnu **naturally**, couldn't cope up with the evil lessons that were taught there. One day, in a meeting hall where thousands of people had gathered, Hiranyakashipu lovingly made his son sit on his lap and asked him - “ O son! All these days you have learnt so much in the gurukulam. Tell me about any one of the **best lessons** who have learnt there. “ **Brave** hearted Prahalada, even while sitting on the lap of his father who was a asura , started praising the greatness of Lord Narayana

- “ ತತ್ಸಾಧುಮನ್ಯೇಽಸುರವರ್ಯ ದೇಹಿನಾಂ ಸದಾ ಸಮುದ್ವಿಗ್ನಧಿಯಾಮಸದ್ ಗ್ರಹಾತ್...!! O greatest of asuras! In this world, all the people have fallen in this samsara, which is solely responsible for their **decadence**. By the attack of these dark worldly pleasures, all of them are repenting a lot for failing to find the right path. By joining the groups of good and wise people, who shows the path for enlightenment, we must completely forget about this world and **involve** ourselves in praising the greatness of God. This is the only best lesson i've learnt! “

On hearing this praising of his darkest enemy Lord Narayana, **Hiranyakashipu** got very **furious** and warned his son's teachers, Shanda and Marka to have an eye on his son always, so that no one from the side of Lord Vishnu comes to teach him about the God. After going back to the gurukula, again the same lessons which would **provoke enmity** in Lord Narayana were taught. Prahallada who completely opposed this, became a **rebellion** against it and started preaching the knowledge of God to all his friends! On seeing this act of Prahallada, his teachers were astonished.

They thought - “ We are **not telling** anything related to Dharma, God or about Tattvagnaana, how this Prahallada is gaining the knowledge of God? “ They could not find any solution to this problem. Finally out of curiosity, they asked Prahallada only - “ Prahallada! Who is the one who is teaching you all these? How have you developed the **devotion towards God**, when neither us nor any of your friends do not have any interest in that? Is it coming from your nature itself? Or is anybody teaching you? Without any guidance, you being a small child cannot learn all this on your own! Please tell us the truth. “ Prahallada **bravely** answered - “ An iron revolves around the needle. Visibly, no one is doing this act. But still it is happening. How's it possible? It is possible only because **invisible God** is making that iron to move around the needle. Similarly, God himself is drawing me towards him! Neither me nor anyone else is capable of independently going towards God, without his willingness. So please don't develop doubt on others and trouble them for this. God is solely responsible for all my activities towards him! “

By this, we can see the **depth of devotion** Prahallad had developed in God, which helped him to remain brave and face the situations, even in such an evil environment. We must also try to **increase** our devotion towards God everyday, then automatically we'll get the strength to face everything in this life with much more braveness!

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|| SANDESHA - 53 ||

| NINE FORMS OF DEVOTION ! |

On hearing the words related the greatness of God from **Prahallada**, Shanda and Marka got highly angered on him and started beating him. After warning him to not to repeat the same, they again began to teach him the same old lessons, which were **consent** to Hiranyakashipu. One fine day, Hiranayakashipu again ordered them to bring his son to the palace. On reaching the palace, Prahallada offered his pranams to his father, hugged him and then sat on his lap. Hiranyakashipu then asked him to tell about the new things he had learned in the Gurukulam.

Prahallada started answering - “ ಶ್ರವಣಂ ಕೀರ್ತನಂ ವಿಷ್ಣೋಃ ಸ್ಮರಣಂ ಪಾದ ಸೇವನಂ | ಅರ್ಚನಂ ವಂದನಂ ದಾಸ್ಯಂ ಸಖ್ಯಮಾತ್ಮನಿವೇದನಮ್...!! Till now, whatever i've learnt, in that the knowledge of these nine forms of devotion is one of the important lesson! The nine forms of Devotion are : 1) **Hearing** the greatness of Supreme God, that has been beautifully described in the holy Vedas, ancient scriptures like Ramayana, Mahabharata, Bhagavata etc. 2) **Reciting the prayers** that upheld the greatness of God. 3) Continuously **chanting the name** of Lord Vishnu. 4) **Going to the holy places** like Badri, Tirupati, Udupi, Phandarapura,

etc. where God has himself notified his special presence and also the places where various aparoksha gnanis right from our guru Vishwaguru Acharya Madhwa has installed the idols of God and has established his special presence through their highest level of spiritual achievements ! 5) **Doing the pooja** of Lord Srihari, as mentioned in the shastras. Even if done in a small manner, we should daily worship him in the form of Shaligramas, idols, etc. 6) Offering our **pranams** to the God, by completely surrendering at his holy lotus feet! 7) Enduring the feeling of **servitude** : When Lord Hanuman went to the palace of Ravana, he proudly introduced himself as the servant of Lord Ramachandra! In the same way, we must always be proud of ourselves to have become the servants of Lord Narayana and also his devotees, who are our gurus in the path of enlightenment! 8) **Friendship** with lord! As a friend of Arjuna, Lord Krishna himself took the responsibility of charioting his life's chariot and blessed him immensely, for his true love towards him! We must also try to see God as our friend! 9) **Knowledge** of God's lordship, even in salvation. Developing devotion in these forms is the important lesson, that I've learnt! "

On hearing these things from his son, Hiranyakashipu got highly furious not only on him but also on his teachers and scolded both of them immensely. Even his teachers started repenting for having him as their student. Such is their foolishness! The education that had been taught by Shanda and Marka all this while, was like a **parrot lesson**! A parrot when caged repeats everything that is taught. But, as soon as it comes out of the cage, it completely forgets everything and flies away. In the same way, Prahallada never learnt those evil lessons that were taught in the Gurukulam! His field of interest was entirely different! **Education** is not merely necessary for demonstration. It should help in making an individual to mainly become an Human being and also develop interest in spirituality. Only then, we can expect our **nation** to become much more stronger from the support of the pillars called youth! By understanding the **importance** of such education as well as the spirituality, we must develop the devotion in God and earn the knowledge of this world in such a way that it helps us to proudly serve our nation. Only then, we can please the God!

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|| SANDESHA - 54 ||

| PRAHALLADA'S BRAVENESS ! |

On hearing the words related to **God** from his son Prahallada, Hiranyakashipu became so furious that he not only scolded him, but also ordered his servants to **kill** him! He roared - " Asuras! Kill him, push him from the mountain! He is an **enemy** to our cult. He is the servant of my enemy Lord Vishnu, so destroy his presence immediately! A son mocking his father is like an enemy only. So, kill him at the earliest! "

The **barbaric** minded servants of Hiranyakashipu, as per the order from their lord, without showing any mercy started giving immense trouble to Prahallada with the intention of killing him. They started **poking** him with their spears. But **Prahallada**, who was completely immersed in **chanting** the name of supreme Lord Narayana, couldn't feel any pain! They then forced **elephants** to crush him. But astonishingly, those elephants instead of crushing him, offered their pranams to him and even garlanded him! Then, those servants put him in a place where there were hundreds of **snakes** and made them to bite him. But nothing happened to Prahallada, who was constantly thinking of God! Later, they pushed him from the tip of a huge **mountain**. But astonishingly, nothing happened to him! Lord Narayana himself caught hold of him and rescued him! Then those servants forced him to **fast** for many days, by not providing him anything to eat. But still, nothing happened to Prahallada! As a final try, they even gave him **poison** to drink. Prahallada without any hesitation completely drank the same and to everyone's shock, still nothing happened to him! **Lord Narayana** who was completely pleased by the Prahallada's immense devotion and very strong faith in

him, he himself **protected** him in all those challenging breathtaking situations. Such is the **kindness** of God, on his true devotees!

Those servants themselves became very much tired by giving all these troubles to Prahallada. Finally they told their lord Hiranyakashipu about all these happenings. Hiranyakashipu on learning all these, got completely shocked on seeing this **braveness and greatness** of Prahallada, who had overcome the death multiple times. He could not find any other way to kill his son. He thought - “ I had asked lord Brahmadeva to grant me **immortality**. Instead of granting it only to me, has he granted it to my entire **clan**?! “ Then when he was clueless of his next steps, Shanda and Marka came to him and consoled him - “ Rajendra! You, being the king of this entire universe should not think in this way. Prahallada is still a small boy. All the mistakes that children do when they are young will automatically disappear, once they become adults. Also our father **Shukracharya** will properly guide him. Don't think too much about him. We'll take him back to the Gurukulam and help him to overcome his mistakes! “ After preaching all this, they took Prahallada back to the Gurukulam and again started preaching the same old non sense lessons to him!

From these incidents, we can see the **depth of devotion and faith**, Prahallada possessed in God, which gave him immense braveness to face such toughest situations. We must also develop strongest faith and immense devotion in God. Along with this, if we lead our life by sincerely do our duties, then for sure, **God's protection** will always be on us and he'll surely helps us to face every situations in our life.

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|| SANDESHA - 55 ||

| PRAHALLADA'S MESSAGE TO THE MANKIND ! |

One day, when there were no classes in the Gurukulam, all the **friends** of Prahallada called him to join them for playing. **Prahallada** who was least interested in playing any other sports told them - “ Dear friends, today we'll play a special game of learning the **lessons of Vedanta**! “ All those asura boys, who had great love and confidence in him, very eagerly accepted it and sat near him. Then, Prahallada started preaching - “ ಕೌಮಾರ ಆಚರಣೆ ಪ್ರಾಜ್ಞೋ ಧರ್ಮಾನ್ ಭಾಗವತಾನಿಹ | ದುರ್ಲಭಂ ಮಾನುಷಂ ಜನ್ಮ ತದಪ್ಯಧ್ಯವಮರ್ಥದಮ್ !! Friends! One who is knowledgeable should start following the Bhagavata dharma, right from the **childhood**. This precious human life is very rare! Only through this human life, we can get all the purusharthas. One should develop **devotion** in the lotus feet of Lord Vishnu and worship him as the supreme one. Only then, this life will become an effective one! To experience the happiness and sadness, this human life itself is not necessary. These things can be experienced even while possessing other bodies. How sadness comes **unintentionally**, in the same way, happiness also comes! So we must not indulge ourselves only in trying to obtain these temporary happiness and sadness. “

He further continues - “Devotion in God does not come easily. From the **youth** itself, we must try to develop it by earning his proper knowledge. Human **life span** is around **hundred years**. In that, for **sleeping** itself, we spend around **fifty years**. In **childhood and adolescence**, around **twenty years** are spent just for playing and enjoying! In the **final stages** of the life, around **twenty years** goes wasted because of old age related problems. The **remaining** life span goes wasted because of various family matters! In between all these, where is the time to do spiritual things? Also, in this **temporary life**, we can never pre-determine our death! In today's world, death comes in infinite ways. One may die while travelling, one may die because of attack from other animals, one may die because of various diseases, etc. and the list goes on! Even after knowing all these, a man spends his lives only in developing relationships with others and goes on dedicating his life solely for the **purpose** of doing good to his wife, children, house etc. Even after facing

various hurdles in managing all these, he still continues to fall prey to his wife's fickeling thoughts and finally gets completely **trapped** in this samsaara!

My friends, understand this poignant truth and involve yourselves in thinking of God, for obtaining the ultimate happiness, the salvation! You **need not** strive very hard to obtain the blessings of God! You need to just **leave** all your evilness and try to see God in everyone and show kindness in all the animals and needy people and try to help them. To **please God**, we should just lead our life sincerely by doing our duties and serving him in various ways. If we implement this in our life, we can surely obtain the blessings of God! "

All those asura boys who were good in nature, but had developed bad characteristics because of the evil environment, got highly enlightened on hearing all these preachings from Prahallada and accepted him as their guru and then started following his steps. What an **amazing message** from Prahallada to the mankind! We must understand this universal truth and make sure that our precious human life does not go wasted!

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|| SANDESHA - 56 ||

| PRAHALLADA'S AUTOBIOGRAHY ! |

All the asura boys, who were **astonished** after hearing the preachings about God from Prahallada, asked him - " You have been growing in the same environment as us. The knowledge about God, possessed by you is not at all known to our teachers! How come you being such a small boy, has **gained** this vast knowledge about God? "

Prahallada answered - " My father **Hiranyakashipu** had went to the forest to do penance. All the angels who thought that this was the right time to shrink the strength of the asuras, attacked them and destroyed all their properties. My mother was **pregnant** and i was residing in her womb. Lord Indra, who thought that the son of Hiranyakashipu would be much more **evil** one than his father, with the intention of killing me inside the womb itself, attacked my mother Kayadu. At that moment, **Narada Maharshi** came there and stopped Lord Indra from killing me and told him - ' Devendra, don't try to harm her. There is no fear from her womb! Instead, it is an indication of upcoming **goodness** to the world. A true devotee of God is growing inside her womb. So, don't try to kill the child by troubling her! ' On hearing this, Devendra left the place. Narada Maharshi then took my mother to his place, where my mother **served** all the wise men. Pleased by this, Narada maharshi, who knew about me, started **preaching** about God, to my mother. After some time, my mother because of immense strain she was undergoing and all other family duties, forgot about all those things. But I, who had completely listened to all those preachings very deeply, still remembers everything! Because of the **kindness** of Narada maharshi on me and the **sevas** done by my mother, i've been able to get the **realisation** about this universal truth of greatness of supreme God. "

After telling about his auto biography, Prahallada continued - " My friends, you all should also develop devotion in God. For that sake, you have to get into the **company** of good people and listen about God from them. I'll give you all an example about God's existence - ಸ್ವರ್ಣಂ ಯಥಾ ಗ್ರಾವಾಸು ಹೇಮಕಾರಃ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರೇಷು ಯೋಗೈಸ್ತದಭಿಜ್ಞ ಅಪ್ಸುಯಾತ್..!! Gold is extracted from the Gold mine. But we cannot find Gold there. Instead we can find only stones, mud, sand etc. Only when a scientist identifies the gold residing in between all those stones and mud, we get the Gold. In the same way, we all can only see this **physical world** and experience the temporary pleasures. But wise men, who have earned the proper knowledge of

God, everywhere sees the greatness of the **incomprehensible gem - God**, like the scientists extracting gold from the midst of other particles! Even though God is residing everywhere, he cannot be seen, but his **existence** can be felt in our each and every actions! Only **pure devotion** is sufficient to please him! By understanding this unparallel greatness of God, we must try to earn more and more knowledge about him, and thereby develop immense devotion in him! “

From this, we get two beautiful messages - 1) **Women** should try to spend most of their time during pregnancy, in a good environment. When the child is in the womb itself, all the **good cultures** must be given. Only then, we can expect the children to become great like Prahallada! 2) We must firmly believe the **omnipresence** of God and try to serve him as much as possible, to make our lives an effective one!

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|| SANDESHA - 57 ||

| LORD NARASIMHA'S INCARNATION ! |

Prahallada's amazing preachings about God had **influenced** the asura boys so much that they started neglecting their gurus Shanda and Marka, and started following Prahallada's orders. **Shanda and Marka**, who were shocked and angered on seeing this behaviour of all the boys, immediately reported all these happenings to their lord Hiranyakashipu - “ Lord, all the boys have been completely influenced by your **son's preachings**. All these days, only your son had been a problem for us. But now, all of them have become like him. We are not able to tolerate the problems given by them. Kindly accept our resignation! “

On hearing all these, **Hiranyakashipu** became furious and started shouting at Prahallada - “ O malleable, egoistic son! I'll kill you right now! You don't know my real nature. I'm so evil that if i get anger, all the fourteen worlds will start shaking! But, you are courageously opposing my words. Who's there behind you to **support** you? “ Prahallada bravely replied - “ನ ಕೇವಲಂ ಮೇ ಭವತಶ್ಚ ರಾಜನ್ | ಸ ವೈ ಬಲಂ ಬಲಿನಾಂ ಜಾಪರೇಷಾಂ...!! Father! You are asking who's support is there behind me. With who's support i'm talking with you, with the same one's support you are boasting that you are the lord of all the fourteen worlds! Not only for me and you, he's the only one who is capable of giving support and strength to everyone! He's none other than **omnipresent Supreme lord Vishnu**! With his support only, everyone right from Goddess Lakshmidēvi and lord Brahamadeva to even the smallest creature in this universe is able to do all their activities! Without his support, not even a grass stick is able to move! You are proudly boasting about yourself that you have conquered all the fourteen worlds! But **unfortunately**, you have not been able to defeat the **six enemies** lust, anger etc., which are residing inside you! Without winning over them, how come you have conquered everyone? There's no meaning to your praising! “

Being unable to tolerate his son's words, Hiranyakashipu roared at him - “ Your death has arrived. That's why you are talking like this! You are telling that there is other God than me. Where is he? Show me! - ಕ್ವಾಸೌ ಮದನ್ಯೋ ಜಗದೀಶ್ವರೋ ಹರಿಃ..? “ Prahallada replied - “ **God is omnipresent**! There's no place of his absence! “ Hiranyakashipu showed him a pillar and asked - “ Is he there in this pillar? “ Prahallada, who had a **firm belief** about God's omnipresence replied that God is present even there. Hiranyakashipu angrily took out his sword and attacked **Prahallada** and told him - “ If your God is present here, let him come out and rescue you from me! “ Saying so, he started hitting the pillar, using all his strength. At that moment, an **atrocious sound** came, which shook even the evil hearted asura.

Lord Narasimha incarnated from that pillar! He incarnated just to make his upmost devotee Lord Brahmadeva's and truest devotee Prahallada's words true - ಸತ್ಯಂ ವಿಧಾತುಂ ನಿಜಭೃತ್ಯಭಾಷಿತಂ...!! As per

Lord Brahmadeva's various boons to Hiranayakashipu, Lord Narasimha avatar was neither a form of human or animal, but was a **exotic form** and the time of incarnation was neither a day nor night, but was **evening!** And also he was not a creature created by Lord Brahmadeva! Also to make the words of Prahallada citing his omnipresence true, kind hearted God appeared from that pillar and rescued him!

God **never discards** his true devotees. In one or the other way, he surely protects them. Only our belief in him should be very firm. So, by understanding this, we must try to develop **firm devotion** in him!

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|| SANDESHA - 58 ||

| LORD NARASIMHA'S IMMENSE KINDNESS ! |

Immediately after incarnating, **Lord Narasimha** came towards Prahallada and rescued him from his evil father **Hiranyakashipu**. God's love towards his devotees is **unparallel!** How much love he has towards himself, he shows the same love towards his devotees. Lord Krishna himself has stated in Bhagavadgita - ಜ್ಞಾನೀ ತು ಆತ್ಮೈವ ಮೇ ಮತಮ್..!! In this world, we see the deepest relationship between a mother and her child. A mother who will be doing some work, immediately leaves all those works and comes near her child by running, if she hears her child's crying. Irrespective of her situation, she comes near her child and displays her immense kindness on it. In the same way, **Supreme God** is also like a **mother**. He never tolerates his devotees' sufferings. God who is omnipresent, immediately came out of the pillar and rescued Prahallada. To show that he is completely **independent** of anyone unlike us who require a medium in the form of parents to come to this world, he came out of a **non-living thing - pillar** and also proved that he does not possess any of the worldly qualities like birth, death etc. In this way, God showcased his **inconceivable glory!**

On seeing this furious form of God, Hiranyakashipu got shaken for a moment! He thought - " He is not an ordinary one. He's the one who killed my brother Hiranyaksha. I'll kill him right now! " By thinking so, he took his mace and attacked the God. Lord Narasimha easily defeated him and threw him away. Then, Hiranyakashipu took his sword and tried to pierce him, but on hearing the **atrocious roar** of God, Hiranyakashipu got completely devastated! Finally, Lord Narasimha took him like catching a rat and sat on the **threshold of the courtyard**, to fulfill his devotee lord Brahmadeva's boon of neither killing the asura, inside nor out. Such is the level of kindness of God, on his devotees! After placing him on his thighs, Lord Narasimha **killed** Hiranyakashipu by cut opening his chest, put his weed on himself in the form of garland and then took bath in the pool of blood! As a result, the environment of the entire universe became peaceful.

All his devotees right from the angels to the rishi-munis offered their pranams to him. Lord Brahma started praising him with utmost devotion, but the **furious form** of God did not calm down. Other angels right from Lord Shiva to Kimpurusha also started praising the greatness of God. But still, they failed to console him. **Goddess Lakshmidēvi** who possessed the infinite kindness and blessings of God on her, completely understood this act of her husband Lord Narasimha and thus **did not** turn up to console him. To create an illusion to the asuras, even she acted as if she was scared by seeing this fierce form of her husband! Finally, after understanding the wish of God, Lord Brahmadeva told **Prahallada** - " My child, God has taken this form because of your father. So, you should only console him now! " On hearing this, Prahallada who was shedding tears of bliss on seeing this immense kindness of God on him, went towards him to offer his special prayers !

Hiranyakashipu is a representation of various **evil factors** like ignorance, excessive knowledge, lust, anger, envy etc. which are residing in us! **Prahallada** is a representation of **right knowledge** and **pure**

devotion. When we develop pure devotion in God by earning his proper knowledge and thinking of his immense kindness on us, then he'll surely be pleased and incarnates in our **hearts** in the form of Lord Narasimha to destroy Hiranyakashipu and thus helps us to make this life an effective one!

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|| SANDESHA - 59 ||

| WE ARE GOD'S REFLECTION ! |

As per the orders of Lord Brahmadeva, **Prahallada** offered his pranams to Lord Narasimha and started offering his prayers - " O lord! You are the one who is highly praised by all the Devatas right from Lord Brahmadeva. Even if they continuously praise your greatness, there is **no end** for your **infinite qualities**! You, being such a supreme one wants me to offer the prayers, what can i offer for your immense kindness?! ಮನ್ನೇ ಧನಾಭಿಜನರೂಪತಪಃ ಶ್ರುತೌಜಃ...!! I've learnt about your kindness, according to my aptitude. You'll only be pleased with **devotion**. Nothing else can please you! We may possess abundant wealth, we may be born in a good clan, we may have a beautiful form, we may have earned good knowledge, we may also possess prowess, strength, ability etc. But none of these qualities will please you! **Pure devotion** towards you is the only quality which can help us to get your complete blessings. " **Gajendra** stands as a suitable example for this : He was merely an elephant, he did not possess any wealth, he did not come from any good clan. But when he just offered a lotus with immense devotion, God immediately came to rescue him from the cluster of crocodile's mouth!

Prahallada continues - "ವಿಪ್ರಾದ್ವಿಷಡ್ಗುಣಯುತಾದರವಿಂದನಾಭ...!! A brahmin only becomes a real brahmin if he possess these **twelve qualities** - Proper knowledge of god, truth, sense-control, nirvana, shame for doing bad deeds, generosity, donating to the needy, yagna, doing penance, having tolerance, involved in studying the ancient scriptures and having devotion in god! A shudra who possess pure devotion in god is highly better than brahmin who possess all other qualities except devotion in god! "

Prahallada further explains the **relationship** between the God and Jeeva - " ನೈವಾತ್ಮನಃ ಪ್ರಭುರಯಂ ನಿಜಲಾಭಪೂರ್ಣೋ...!! We all want to look beautiful, so always we'll be looking at the mirror and decorating ourselves. But to look beautiful, do we do the decorate the mirror? **No!** We just make up and decorate ourselves to appear beautifully. Then automatically, our reflection in the mirror also appears beautiful. Similarly, we all '**jeevas**' are the **reflection** of an image called '**God**'! When there is movement in the image, automatically the reflection moves. Similarly, our **existence** is possible only because of God's presence! We are the subordinates to our God. All our activities are happening only because of his immense grace on us. We all offer our prayers to God, do pooja and offer various things like wealth, ornaments, flowers, water etc. to him. But supreme God who is completely perfect and eternally fully satisfied and is highly termed as '**Swaramana**', does not require any of these! We all offer these things to him, only for our selfishness! The main purpose of doing all this pooja and other rituals it to develop this **consciousness** about God. "

By understanding this kindness of god on us and also this relationship between us and God from **infinite time**, we should heartfully surrender ourselves at his lotus feet and offer everything to him with immense devotion. Then, surely we can obtain his blessings and lead a peaceful and happy life!

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|| SANDESHA - 60 ||

| PRAHALLADA'S IMMENSE SACRIFICE ! |

Prahalada who was offering his prayers to Lord Narasimha continued - “ನಾಹಂ ಬಿಭೇಮ್ಯಜಿತ ತೇತಿಭಯಾನಕಾಸ್ಯ...!! O lord! All the worlds have been shaken because of your furious form! But i've not been afraid on seeing this form of you. Your face has been very scary! Your crooked eyes have been raining fire! Your eye brows have been very terrible! Your brutal canines have been very frightening to see! Who is capable of seeing this furious form of yours ? Your terrible nails, atrocious roar and everything have been very horrible! Still i'm unafraid by seeing you! But i'm **highly afraid** on seeing this **dreadful samsaara**.

You want to know the reason for this? - “ತೃಸ್ನೋಸ್ಮ್ಯಹಂ ಕೃಪಣವತ್ಸಲ ದುಃಸಹೋಗ್ರ ಸಂಸಾರಚಕ್ರದನಾತ್ ಕೃಶತಾಂ ಪ್ರಣೀತಃ...!! O Kind hearted God! I'm highly afraid on seeing this cycle of samsaara involving birth and death. In this samsaara, there are not only problems, but also **various attractions**. Because of all these, i'm not able to completely focus my mind in you! Like an uncontrolled horse, this **fickeling mind** has been attracted to various worldly pleasures and subjected to happiness, sadness, afraidness etc. How can we get rid off this attack from our sensory organs? How to control our mind and train it to travel towards you? So, I've been eagerly waiting to get rid off this samsaara by attaining your lotus feet! I'm waiting for your invitation. Put me on your lap and bless me!” **Lord Narasimha** on listening to all these prayers of Prahalada, started calming down and replied to Prahalada - “My child! You don't need to be afraid of this samsaara. I've been highly pleased by your devotion in me. I'll help you to get rid off this samsaara by granting you **salvation**! Come with me !”

Prahalada on seeing this kindness of God further continued - “ನೈವೋದ್ವಿಜೇ ಭವದುರತ್ಯಯ ವೈತರಣ್ಯಾಃ....!! O God! Frankly speaking, I'm not even afraid by this samsaara. This **samsaara** which is filled with happiness, sadness, attachment etc. is like a **ocean**. It's not that easy to get out of this. But also, with your blessings, we can try to get out of this by hearing and learning about your **greatness**, that has been described in various ancient scriptures! Even though i'm not saddened by all these, i'm very much sad about one thing. By looking at this **innocent people**, who are everyday striving very hard, day and night to just lead their samsaara, i feel very sad for them! Just for the **temporary worldly pleasures**, they are totally wasting their precious human life! On seeing all my friends in this situation, i'm not ready to come along with you, individually. All the rishi-munis are doing penance in forests, not for their selfishness. They are doing the same for the welfare of the **entire society**! In the same way, all these friends of mine have took shelter under me. How can i lonely come with you by leaving all of them? How you are my lone protector, similarly for all of them also, you're the only protector. So you only have to bless all of them! “

What an **unparallel kindness and immense sacrifice** of Prahalada! Even when God himself offered him the salvation, he rejected the same just for the sake of his friends! Even in his **last incarnation** as **Sri Raghavendra gurusarvabhoulmaru** in this kaliyuga, we can see the same level of kindness. Just for the sake of blessing all of us, kind hearted Sri Gururajaru has himself assured that he'll stay alive for **700 years** to bless all his followers and devotees, through his brindavana itself! By understanding this immense kindness of Sri Rayaru, let us all **sincerely surrender** at his feet and thus obtain the blessings of God through him, to get rid off this samsaara.

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|| SANDESHA - 61 ||

| DEVOTION IS NOT A BUSINESS ?! |

Lord Narasimha, who was very pleased on seeing the sacrificing nature of Prahallada, showered his blessings on him and told him - “Prahallada! I’m really **pleased** by your devotion in me. I’ve showered my immense love on you on seeing your immense faith in me. Without getting afraid of your father’s evil nature, you have bravely faced all the situations and thus has upheld the truth, devotion and diligence.

Nothing is **impossible** for one, who has pleased me. Whatever boon you want, ask me!”

Prahallada who was solely praying God for his blessings replied - “O lord of lords! I’ve not come near you to get these **worldly pleasures**! I’ve come near you to solely obtain your blessings, to get rid off this samsaara. But you are trying to push me inside the samsaara itself, by telling me to ask for boons! Please don’t try to distract me. ಯಸ್ತು ಅಶಿಷ ಆಶಾಸ್ತೇ ನ ಸ ಭೃತ್ಯಃ ಸ ವೈ ವಣಿಕ್..!! One who does devotion in God to get these temporary worldly pleasures, never becomes a true devotee! He’s like a **businessman**! If we offer our prayers to you to get back something else from you, then it’ll be nothing else than a mere business. I’ve come near you as a devotee, so i’ll not be asking you for anything!”

Lord Narasimha on hearing these wise words of Prahallada, purposefully kept on forcing him to ask for boons, to uphold his **devotee’s greatness**. Prahallada, who was **unshaken** by this act of God remained very firm about his debate. But, ultimately he had to give up and finally asked for a boon - “Lord! I’ve been rejecting your offer from that time, but you are so kind that you have firmly decided to grant me something. As per your wish, even though i do not want anything, i’m asking you a boon : ಕಾಮಾನಾಂ ಹೃದ್ಯಸಂರೋಹಂ ಭವತಸ್ತು ವೃಣೇ ವರಮ್...!! Let the desire to ask you **never be born**!” On seeing this selfless devotion of Prahallada, God became so pleased that not only he blessed him immensely, but also blessed his evil father Hiranyakashipu, for becoming a father to such a good cultured son and thus granted him sadgati! (Salvation to his servant Jaya, who was residing inside Hiranyakashipu and misery to the asura Hiranyakashipu)

Message from Lord Narasimha’s incarnation - Usually, everyone gets scared on seeing this furious form of God, especially on seeing his lion’s face! Eventhough, Lord Narasimha’s face appeared fearful like a lion, his heart was completely filled with immense kindness like a real human! The **unparallel love** he showed on Prahallada justifies the same. We all are also Nara-simhas! Lord’s face was that of an animal, but his heart was like a human’s! But, our’s is entirely opposite to this. We possess a soft human face, but our heart is very tough like that of a lion! The **major difference** between we humans and God is only this! Possessing the animals’ nature inside, we are wearing a mask of human’s face! So, there is more danger from we humans!

Prahallada could develop such a deep devotion in God and finally could see him, because of the **special presence of Lord Vayu** in him! This story of Prahallada is a wonderful example which highlights that God never leaves his true devotee unprotected! As seen earlier, we should really be proud to have got **Sri Vyasaraaja guru sarvabhoulmaru and Sri Raghavendra guru sarvabhoulmaru** as our gurus, who are none other than the further incarnations of Prahallada himself, in this Kaliyuga. By keeping Prahallada as our role model, we must follow his footsteps and also serve our gurus as much as possible, in this precious life, to obtain the complete blessings of God!

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|| SANDESHA - 62 ||

| AN ADVICE TO SPIRITUAL ACHEIVERS ! |

While ruling the kingdom, once **Prahallada** had went near the Sahya mountains. There he saw a bright faced **monk** who was happily sleeping on the shore of river Kaveri. On approaching him, Prahallada questioned the monk - "O monk! Like a person who is enjoying all the worldly pleasures, you appear as if you are very happy. On seeing you, i can surely tell that you are not possessing any money. In this world, without money you cannot enjoy any pleasures! But your appearance is not like a poor one. What's the secret behind your **happiness**?

The monk after praising the greatness of Prahallada, answered - "Way back, i had fallen behind the '**desire**', which is mainly responsible for the samsaara. As a result, i had to take birth as various creatures from infinite time! After experiencing various forms of happiness and sadness, as a result of following this trending path, i got **fed up** of all these! Finally after understanding that the ultimate happiness cannot be achieved in this path, i left the same and started following the retiring path. I developed **devotion in God** by learning about his unparallel greatness. As a result, i'm very happy right now!" One who is continuously involved in earning the wealth, always possess a fear of losing his wealth in one or the other way! Because of this fear, he cannot lead his life happily. **Earning wealth** for leading our lives, helping the needy and utilizing the same for other good deeds is itself not a wrong one. It has to be undoubtedly done. But spending the **entire life** on earning the unnecessary excess wealth is really a stupid one!

In a forest region, a person who was having a **lantern** with him, wanted to light a campfire to boil the water. Thinking that he wanted a match stick to light the fire, he went to the nearby house to get the **match box** and asked the same from man who was residing there. That man, on seeing the lantern in the hands of this person, laughed on seeing him and reminded him of the same. Realising his **foolishness**, the person went back to his place and then used his lantern itself to light the fire! Our situation has become like that person possessing a lantern. Frankly speaking, the **real happiness** is residing **inside us** only! But because of our ignorance, we're unable to recognise the same. As a result, we're simply wandering here and there to find the happiness! Earning the **proper knowledge of God** helps us to understand all these priceless truths!

Our **main aim** of life should be attaining the lotus feet of God. We all '**jeevas**' are travelling in a chariot called '**life**'. We should throw our arrow called '**mind**' on a goal called '**God**'. A bow is very much necessary to throw an arrow. That bow is nothing but all the **Vedas and ancient scriptures**. When we properly tune our mind by earning the proper knowledge of God through all these works and make God and his upmost devotee Lord hanuman as our **life's charioteers**, then it'll be very easy for us to reach our goal called God! Srimad Bhagavata which has described all these aspects is a **beautiful guide** to all the spiritual achievers. By understanding this universal truth, we must try to follow the path shown by this precious gem called '**Bhagavata**' and thus make this precious life an effective one!

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| ASHTAMA SKANDA |

|| SANDESHA - 63 ||

| THE FOUR PILLARS OF OUR LIFE! |

Swayambhuva Manu, the son of Lord Brahamadeva, was married to Shataroopa devi. They had five children, two sons namely Priyavrata and Uttanapada, and three daughters namely Devahooti, Prasuti and Akuti. **Lord Vishnu** himself incarnated twice in this lineage, firstly as **Lord Kapila**(Devahooti devi's son) and later as **Lord Yagna**(Prasuti devi's son). After completing all his duties including that of continuing the process of creation, Swayambhuva Manu along with his wife went to the forest to do **penance** with the intention of obtaining God's blessings.

Once when he was praising the God's greatness by reciting the mantras of '**Eeshavasyopanishat**' - ಈಶಾವಾಸ್ಯಮಿದಂ ಸರ್ವಂ ಯತ್ಕಿಂಚ ಜಗತ್ಪಾಂಜಗತ್...!!, a group of asuras attacked him to kill him. They all had become very strong after getting the boon of immortality from Lord Shiva. **Lord Yagna**, who was pleased by the prayers of Manu, immediately appeared there and protected his devotee Manu by killing all those asuras! Earlier asuras were directly coming and attacking everyone. But today, we all are being indirectly attacked by many asuras who are residing in various bad subjects. ದೈತ್ಯೇಷು ಅಸಂಗಂ ವಿಷಯಾತ್ಮಕೇಷು...!! All the humans are falling prey to various **bad habits**. At the beginning, they start to consume alcohol, later the alcohol itself consumes them. i.e. they become so addicted to that habit that they cannot survive without doing it. So, in order to get out of this addiction, like Swayambhuva manu, we also must surrender to God by praising his greatness as described in various Upanishats and other mantras. Then for sure, God protects us all the time.

On seeing this kindness of Lord Yagna, Swayambhuva manu heatfully offered his pranams and further gives some amazing messages to the society - "Even this **transient life** possesses a beautiful meaning. This can be understood only when one sincerely involves himself in doing his duties! A pavilion consists of four pillars. Similarly for a pavilion called '**life**', there are **four pillars** namely - doing the duties, earning the knowledge of God, developing true devotion in him by understanding the limitations of these worldly pleasures and thus developing detachment in the same!

Only because of the **omnipresence of Supreme God**, all the activities are happening in this universe. Without soul, the movement of body is impossible. In the same way, without God there is no life! For developing immense devotion in him, **detachment in worldly pleasures** is very much necessary! Whatever fruits we receive for doing our duties, we must happily accept the same as the **God's gracious gift** and thus be satisfied with the same. We must try to be away from **greed, egoism** etc. which are mainly responsible for all our bad actions. This greed itself is an axe which destroys the root of devotion in God! By overcoming this greed by developing detachment in these worldly matters, one can firmly develop devotion in God! So our main aim should be to mainly get these **four pillars** of our life - earning proper knowledge, developing devotion in God, detachment in worldly matters and sincerely doing the assigned duty." By understanding this message of Swayambhuva manu, we must try to implement the same to make this life an effective one!

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|| SANDESHA - 64 ||

| THE STORY OF GAJENDRA ! |

Srimad Bhagavata has beautifully described an incident that had occurred during the Tapasa manvantara, which highlights the kindness of Lord Vishnu on his true Devotees. There were **two Gandharvas** named '**Haahaa**' and '**Hooohoo**', who had the capacity to take their willing form and were also interested in making fun of others. For their enjoyment, one day they decided to make fun of a muni named '**Devala**' who was doing meditation at the banks of river Ganga and thus took the forms of **Elephant and Crocodile** respectively. When the muni enter the river to take a dip, Hooohoo gandharva in the form of crocodile, who was residing inside the river scared the muni. To protect himself, when the muni came out from the river to the bank, Haahaa gandharva who had took the form of Elephant not only scared him, but also took him in his trunk and started playing with him! On learning about these extreme actions of the gandharvaas through his divine vision, muni who got angered on them **cursed** Hooohoo gandharva to become a crocodile and Haahaa gandharva to become a king and then an elephant. As a result, Haahaa gandharva became the king to Pandya Kingdom and was named as '**Indradyumna**'. After religiously ruling the kingdom for many years, he went to the forest to do penance. One day, when he was doing the pooja of God, **Agasthya maharshi** came to his place. Even after seeing him, Indradyumna purposefully neglected him and continued his pooja. On seeing this ignorance of the king, Agasthya maharshi cursed him to become an elephant and went away.

In the midst of milky sea, there was a mountain named '**Trikoota**'. There, Indradyumna took birth as an elephant (**Gajendra**) in the forest and the hooohoo gandharva took birth as a **crocodile** in the near by lake. The elephant, which had become very strong by eating the eatables of the forest was happily enjoying along with his family in a nearby place called '**Rutumata**'. One day, because of excess sunlight, Gajendra got very strained and to quench his thirst, he went to the lake where the crocodile was residing, along with all his family and friends. After overcoming the thirst, Gajendra then started playing in the lake, along with other elephants. As per the curse of Devala muni, this situation became a **turning point** for both the Gandharvaas. The crocodile caught hold of **Gajendra's leg** so tightly that, even none of his fellow elephants could help it to get out of the cluster of the crocodile. After struggling in the same situation for **thousands of years**, Gajendra because of doing good deeds in his previous lives, realised that other than **supreme Lord Vishnu**, none of them including his relatives, friends can help him to come out of this cluster of crocodile! As a result, with immense devotion he offered a **lotus** which had grown in that lake and started praying to Lord Narayana - **ನಾರಾಯಣಾಖಿಲಗುರೋ ಭಗವನ್ನಮಸ್ತೇ..!!** Even before his prayers were completed, kind hearted God who was completely pleased by this devotion of Gajendra, came on his vehicle **Garuda** and rescued him by killing the crocodile through his Sudarshana chakra!

Some messages from this story - 1) We must **never ignore** the wise men! There'll be God's special presence in them. If we ignore them, God will never be pleased by any of our rituals! 2) Gajendra did not possess anything with him, apart from **pure devotion**. When he offered the same to God, he immediately rescued him! So, apart from pure devotion, God will not be pleased by anything else! Even if we offer him our wealth, ornaments etc. and everything to God without any devotion, then it'll be of no use! 3) Lord Vishnu not only exalted the Gajendra but also exalted crocodile, that too before the Gajendra himself! God **not only** blesses his true devotees, but also blesses those who sincerely surrender to his devotees! By understanding this, we must surrender to our Gurus to obtain the blessings of God!

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|| SANDESHA - 65 ||

| LORD AJITA'S GUIDANCE TO THE SURAS ! |

In **Chaaksusha Manvantara**, Lord Vishnu incarnated as **Lord Ajita** and motivated both the suras and asuras to do Samudra manthan to get the '**Amrita**'. Srimad Bhagavata describes the reason for this incident and further explains how Lord Ajita guided his truest devotees, the suras, to overcome the difficult situations they had to face because of their mistake! Once when **Durvasa muni** was travelling, he saw a Vidyadhara woman who was carrying a garland which was earlier offered to Lord Vishnu. The muni got that prasadam(Nirmalya) of God from her and continued his journey. On his way, he saw Lord Indra who was coming by his vehicle, the elephant named 'Airavata' and gave that **God's prasadam** to him. Lord Indra because of his ignorance, instead of receiving the same with utmost respects, took it and put it on his vehicle **Airavata**, which threw that garland down and crushed it. Angered by seeing this neglecting act of Lord Indra, Durvasa muni **cursed** him - "Devendra, you have disrespected the prasadam of God by your ignorance! I'll repress your position! May you lose all your wealth and even your lordship!" Frightened on hearing this, Lord Indra immediately realised his mistake and surrendered at the feet of Durvas muni, but the muni refused to forgive him - "Devendra, you have been repeating the same thing of doing the mistake and then repenting for the same! This has become your regular routine. So, at any cost i'll not be forgiving you." Saying so, the muni left the place.

On getting the news of this cursing of Durvasa muni on the suras, the asuras not only attacked and defeated them but also secured all their wealth and began to display their evilness all over the universe! Worried by all these incidents, all the suras went along with their leader Devendra and approached **Lord Brahmadeva**, who further along with all these suras offered their prayers to please kind hearted Lord Ajita with the intention of getting his blessings and guidance. Pleased by their prayers, **Supreme Lord Ajita** appeared in front of them and after learning about all these earlier happenings, acknowledged them of giving his protection and also guided them - "My followers, you all follow my orders, everything good will happen in the future! Right now, you all **join hands** with your enemies asuras which will be of great help to you. Listen to this story - A charmer had kept a **snake** in a basket. For helping it to breathe, he had kept open a small hole. One day, as a food, he had put a **rat** in that basket. But, the snake instead of immediately eating that rat thought - 'If i eat this rat, my everyday routine of staying in this basket does not end. So i have to plan something by using this rat to get rid off this **torture**!' Thinking so, it developed friendship with the rat and after gaining its complete faith, it told - 'I'll open my hoodie, you stand on my head and cut open this basket using your teeth and escape from this, then i can also come out of this basket, thereby both of us can come out of this cluster.' The foolish rat which got **convinced** by this idea, starting cutting the basket. As soon as it opened the basket, the cunning snake immediately swallowed the rat and then escaped from the basket! This story itself is a guide to you! So, for the welfare of the entire universe, you need to develop friendship with the evil minded asuras now, with the intention of getting the Amrita by doing the Samudra Manthan. As soon as you get the Amrita, you'll be the winners!" Saying so, the God disappeared.

What an amazing message from Lord Ajita to all of us! We have a huge responsibility of protecting our **Sanathana Dharma**. So, for the welfare of the society, we all Brahmins as well as all the Hindus should always be united to fight against all the evil forces which try to attack us regularly, by forgetting all the indifferences between us. Only then our Dharma can be protected!

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|| SANDESHA - 66 ||

| LAKSHMI - NARAYANA'S SWAYAMVARA ! |

As per the **orders of Lord Ajita**, all the suras went to the heaven and outstretched their hands to offer friendship with the asuras headed by **King Bali**. Initially the asuras refused for the same, but after learning about getting the 'Amrita' by doing the Samudra manthan, they accepted the friendship with the suras. They decided to use **Mandara mountain** as the churning tool to get the Amrita. As per the prayers from all of these suras and asuras, the Mandara mountain which had become adamant because of the boon from Lord Shiva, was easily picked and kept on Garudadeva by **Supreme Lord Vishnu** himself! On the way, the suras expressed their wish to carry that mountain and tried to move it from the back of Garudadeva. But the suras couldn't withstand that immense weight of the mountain, as a result it slipped from their hands and fell on them, thereby crushing and killing them! Kind hearted God again placed that mountain on Garudadeva and made them alive. Then all of them prayed the **snake 'Vasuki'** to become a rope for this process of Samudra Manthan, for which that snake happily accepted and joined them.

After making all the arrangements, the **Samudra Manthan** started. But after some time, because of the immense force put on it by these Devatas and Danavas, the mountain started to drown in the milky ocean! Then again Lord Vishnu himself incarnated as **Koorma** and prevented the mountain from drowning. To prevent any further obstacles, Lord Vishnu also kept his special presence in that mountain itself! At the beginning, a terrible poison named '**Haalahala**' which was a representation of the evil demon '**Kali**' came up. When everyone stepped back on seeing this scary poison, **Lord Vayu** came front and not only drank and digested all the poison without any hesitation and protected the entire universe, but also showed that he can never have any effect of demon Kali on him! Later, kind hearted Lord Shiva also came forward to drink the poison and said - "ತಪ್ಪಂತೇ ಲೋಕ ತಾಪೇನ ಸಾಧವಃ ಪ್ರಾಯಶೋ ಜನಾಃ...!! In this world, when something bad happens to the good people, the hearts of saints melts off! Learning about other's difficulties and praying the God for their welfare itself is God's pooja! " When the entire universe had been shaken on seeing this terrible poison, **Lord Shiva** came forward to drink the same so that the process of Samudra Manthan could be continued further, to obtain the Amrita. On seeing this kindness of Lord Shiva, Lord Vayu took a small portion of poison, thickened it and made it **less effective** and gave it to him. But when Lord Shiva tried to drink it, he couldn't swallow the poison and thus it got stuck near his throat and Lord Shiva lost his concious! Because of this, he became famous as '**Neelakhanta**'. Later by God's blessings, he regained his conciousness.

Again when the process of Samudra manthan continued, various things like a horse named 'Ucchaishravas', an elephant named '**Airavata**', various weapons of the suras, ornaments, Parijata tree, Apsara women, etc. came out! All the devatas happily received them. When the process further continued, **Goddess Lakshmidēvi** came out. On seeing their mother, all the suras offered their pranams and prayers to her. But the evil minded asuras, on seeing the **unparallel beauty** of Goddess Lakshmidēvi got attracted towards her because of illusion and came forward to marry her! But, supreme Goddess Lakshmidēvi who was possessing a garland then started seeing the **errors** in each and everyone present there. On realising that everyone possessed one or the other errors, she finally decided that Swaramana **Lord Narayana**, who is **free of all the errors** is the only one who is '**supreme**' and thus by **garlanding** him, she married her. Frankly speaking, there is no separation of Lord Vishnu and Goddess Lakshmidēvi, even in the **doom period**. Lakshmidēvi acted so, just to show the world the greatness of her husband Lord Narayana, by justifying that all others possessed one or the other errors! By understanding this **greatness** of the entire world's father-mother, Lord Vishnu and Goddess Lakshmidēvi, we must offer our prayers to them!

ಪ್ರೀತೋಽಸ್ಮು ಕೃಷ್ಣಪ್ರಭುಃ

|| SANDESHA - 67 ||

| LORD DHANVANTARI'S IMMENSE KINDNESS ! |

We have learnt about the marriage between never separated couple : **Goddess Lakshmidēvi and Supreme God Narayana** in our earlier message. By describing this incident, Srimad Bhagavata has given us a wonderful message - In our lives, everyday and night we strive very hard to earn **money**. During the samudra manthan, how the asuras came forward to marry Goddess Lakshmidēvi who is the representation of money, similarly as soon as money comes to us, various **asuras** in the form of gambling, alcoholism, Night clubs etc. comes forward and attracts us! Like how Goddess Lakshmidēvi **neglected** all those asuras and married Lord Narayana, we should also neglect all those bad things and spend our hard earned money only for various **good deeds** like donation to the needy people, knowledge related functions etc. Only then all our efforts of earning will become effective!

After all these incidents, the process of Samudra manthan continued to get the Amrita. At the final stages of this process, Lord Vishnu himself incarnated in the form of **Dhanvantari** and bought the 'Amrita Kalasha'! - ಧನ್ವಂತರಿತಿ ಖ್ಯಾತಃ ಅರ್ಯುರ್ವೇದದೃಗಿಜ್ಯಭಾಕ್..!! The attractive form of Lord Dhanvantari was filled with unparalleled beauty! To give the Amrita to his devotees the suras, Lord Vishnu himself bought this Amrita filled with various **ayurvedic medicines of highest level** and by giving it to the Devatas, he has not only blessed them alone but also has protected the **entire mankind**. Thus by giving the Amrita to the Devatas, various forms of medicines equivalent to Amrita to the humans and salvation to the wise men, Lord Dhanvantari has shown his **immense kindness**!

As soon as Lord Dhanvantari bought the Amrita, all the **asuras** neglected the suras and went forward to get that amrita by **snatching** that kalasha from God himself! On seeing this evil act of the asuras, all the suras again became worried - "By nature itself, these asuras are very evil. If they drink this Amrita and obtain immortality, then no body can control them!" Understanding this situation, again kind hearted God himself took another attractive female form fondly known as '**Mohini**', to create illusion to the asuras and then went near them! On seeing this beautiful form of God, again all the asuras got trapped in the **illusion** and came towards him and handed over that Amrita Kalasha to him and even asked him only to distribute the Amrita! Immediately God completely distributed the Amrita to the suras and did not give it to even a single asura. Lord Vedavyasa has given a reason for this act of God - ತತ್ರಾಮೃತಂ ಸುರಗಣಾಃ ಫಲಮಂಜಸಾಪುಃ | ಯತ್ಪಾದಪಂಕಜರಜಃ ಶ್ರಯಣಾನ್ ದೈತ್ಯಾಃ || It is very much true that both the suras and asuras had put their equal efforts to get this Amrita. But the suras had involved in this process by possessing the **proper knowledge, devotion in God** and various other good qualities. But, on the other hand, the evil minded Daityas never possessed any of these good qualities and involved themselves in this process of Samudra manthan only with the selfishness and evilness of achieving immortality! Understanding this evil intention of the asuras, God did not give the Amrita to them.

Whatever seva we do to god, if done without any devotion, God will **never be pleased** by them! Also, the battle between the suras(**Good thoughts**) and asuras(**Bad thoughts**) residing in us is happening everyday in our lives! Sometimes, the suras win, sometimes the asuras win. When we **obtain** the proper knowledge of God and thus give more importance to good thoughts, then permanently we can destroy these bad thoughts and lead a happy life by the special blessings of God!

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|| SANDESHA - 68 ||

| LORD VAMANA'S INCARNATION ! |

After describing the story of **Samudra mantahan**, which highlights the immense kindness of Lord Dhanvantari on his devotees Devatas, Srimad Bhagavata further describes the story of **King Bali**. After getting the Amrita from the God, all the suras were living happily under the leadership of Lord Indra. On the other hand, the asuras who had become very angry on the suras decided to again attack and defeat them, under the leadership of asura King Bali and approached their guru **Shukracharya**. As per their prayers, Shukracharya did the **Vishwajith Yaaga** and helped them to gain immense strength.

Immediately after gaining the strength, the asuras starting attacking the suras. Worried by all these developments, the suras along with their leader Devendra approached their guru **Brihaspatyacharya** who suggested - “ತಸ್ಮಾನ್ನಿಲಯಮತ್ಯಜ್ಯ ಯೂಯಂ ಸರ್ವೇ ತ್ರಿವಿಷ್ಣುಪಮ್..!! Right now, it is not at all possible to defeat these asuras since they have gained immense strength by the support of their guru. **God** himself must come to win over them. Until then, you all be patient and **leave this heaven** ! As per their guru's orders, all the suras left the heaven and each one of them hid in different places. When the **asuras** came to heaven to attack the suras, they were both astonished and happy to see that there was no one there. As a result, they happily **started ruling** the Swargaloka under the leadership of King Bali.

The **suras** who were saddened by all these actions of asuras, again **approached** Lord Vishnu to help them get out of this situation. Pleased by their prayers, Kind hearted God assured his protection to them. The mother of Suras, **Aditidevi** had become very sad on seeing this bad situation of her children. As per the guidance from her husband **Kashyapa rishi**, she devotedly prayed God to get himself as her son, by doing various spiritual rituals. Pleased by all these sevas of Aditidevi, Lord Vishnu himself incarnated as **Lord Vamana** in her! The form of Lord Vamana **possessing** four hands, Shanka-Chakra-Gada-Padma, lotus like eyes, various ornaments etc. was so beautiful that even words fell short to describe them! Like how the child form of Lord Krishna is described, in the same way Lord Vedavyasa has beautifully described the child form of Lord Vamana also. When normal children are born, they never possess any ornaments, four hands etc. By showing this entirely different amazing form of his, God **justified** that he does not have birth unlike us jeevas, who have been rotating in this cycle of birth and death from infinite lives! After some years, upanayana samskaara was done to him. Then with the intension of fulfilling his incarnation's main purpose, Lord Vamana started towards the place where hundredth Ashwamedha yaga was being performed by King Bali.

Upanishads have beautifully described - “ತಂ ಯಥಾ ಯಥಾ ಉಪಾಸತೆ ತದೇವ ಭವತಿ..!! Since we jeevas are **God's reflection**, whatever good qualities we think in Supreme God, we also develop such qualities according to our aptitude. If we keep on thinking that God is always **free** of this **cycle of Birth and Death**, then for sure, we can also get rid off this cycle and attain Salvation!

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|| SANDESHA - 69 ||

| LORD VAMANA'S MESSAGE ! |

At the banks of river Narmada, **King Bali** was performing hundredth Ashwamedha yaga. **Lord Vamana** who appeared like a small brahmin boy filled with unparallel glory, started walking towards the place where the yaga was going on. On seeing the brightness from his face, everyone who were present there

got astonished and offered their pranams and also did Padapooja to him. Asura king Bali who was a devotee of God by nature, on seeing this form of God got very emotional and immediately surrendered at his feet and invited him - “ಸ್ವಾಗತಂ ತೇ ನಮಸ್ತುಭ್ಯಂ ಬ್ರಹ್ಮನಿಂ ಕರವಾಮ ತೇ..!! O brahmin, my hearty welcome to you! I know that you are not a normal one! From your arrival, all our fathers have been satisfied, our lineage became holy, even my life itself became an effective one! On seeing you, i can surely tell that you have come here to ask something from me. Do you want cows? Or do you want any house? Villages, horses, elephants, chariots, etc. whatever you want you can ask me! Or have you come here looking for a bride for marriage? If so i'll arrange everything for you!”

On seeing this **generosity** of king Bali, Lord Vamana cleverly replied - “King Bali, you have spoken according to your clan! My truest devotee **Prahallada** who was like a mountain of generosity, his father **Hiranyakashipu** who was a very mighty one who searched for me everywhere to kill me but unfortunately failed to see me inside himself, and other great persons have come in your clan!” Our state is similar to that of Hiranyakashipu! When **god** is present inside us itself, instead of trying to look him there, we are going in search of him everywhere else! What a tragedy of our life no?!

Lord Vamana further continued - “Bali, your **personality** is also not a normal one! I'm very much pleased on seeing your generosity! You possess the capacity to give anything. But i only want a place **where i can keep my three steps**. If you can give me that, i'll be very much pleased!” Astonished on hearing this, king Bali said - “You are a very small boy, you still don't know what to ask from me! ಮಾಂ ವಚೋಭಿಃ ಸಮಾರಾಧ್ಯ ಲೋಕಾನಾಮೇಕಮೀಶ್ವರಮ್..!! I'm the lord of the three worlds! After praising me so much and making me happy, you are only asking a piece of this land to keep your three steps! It'll be very shameful for me if i donate only this much to you!” For this, Lord Vamana replied - “ಯಾವಂತೋ ವಿಷಯಾಃ ಪ್ರೇಷಾಃ ತ್ರಿಲೋಕ್ಯಾಮಜಿತೇಂದ್ರಿಯಮ್..!! One who does not have control on his senses, will never be satisfied! His willingness of getting more and more, itself kills him. There is no end to this '**Desire**'! Even all the materials in these three worlds cannot satisfy him. So, i'm very much satisfied by the piece of land which is sufficient to keep my three steps! All the kings who had earned excess of wealth took nothing with them while leaving this Earth! Literally, there is no one who is able to **take anything** while **leaving this world**. By understanding this, you only donate me whatever i have asked you. That is more than enough for me!” King Bali who understood that there was no use in talking with him in this regard, got ready to donate the piece of land!

What a **message** from Lord Vamana to all of us! We strive very hard every day to earn the wealth. It is true that it is really necessary to earn the wealth : **to lead our lives, to donate to the needy and for other good deeds, to go to holy places, to do various spiritual rites etc**. But the main thing is, we must be very much satisfied with whatever wealth God grants us for doing our duty sincerely and also be very much aware that even if we earn **excess unnecessary wealth**, we can take nothing with us while leaving this world! Only then we can lead our life happily without any unnecessary confusions!

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|| SANDESHA - 70 ||

| LORD VAMANA'S TRIVIKRAMA FORM ! |

When king Bali decided to donate a piece of land sufficient to keep Lord Vamana's three steps, his guru **Shukracharya** intervened and warned him - “Bali, our existence itself is very important to do all the good deeds! Whatever donations and Dharma we do, must be done within our limitations. It should not become a burden for our existence! There should be business mindedness while donating. Donating everything possessing by us is like losing our own self! So one should always think before giving words of donation!”

On hearing this, **Bali** neglected his preachings and replied - “ನಹ್ಯಸತ್ಯಾತ್ ಪರೋಽಧರ್ಮಃ..!! Acharya! There is no Adharma than **speaking lies**! That too after giving words to a Brahmagyani, deceiving him is not at all a right thing. In this situation, i’m not even scared of my death! I am very much **firm** on my decision of donating to Lord Vamana, as per his wish. I’m ready to face whatever misfortunes that may occur! So please don’t try to stop me!” After failing to convince the king even after multiple efforts, Shukracharya got fed up of him and angrily **cursed** him - “Let all your wealth be lost!” Even after all these happenings, King Bali firmly stood with his decision and along with his wife **Vindhyavali** who was much more eager to donate to the Lord himself, **donated** the piece of land required for Lord Vamana to keep his three steps! On seeing this ultimate donation and sacrificing nature of this couple, all the Devatas, Gandharvas, Charanas, Rishis and everybody got astonished and showered flowers on them!

Immediately after receiving the donation, Lord Vamana began to show his **Trivikrama form** which was filled with all the worlds, Rishis, Animals, Devatas, Seven oceans, ten directions etc. **Lord Trivikrama** then occupied all the worlds that were below, through his **first step**! Next through his **second step**, he started completely occupying all the worlds that were above including the Satyaloka, Tapoloka, Janoloka etc. What an **amazing and unparallel personality** of supreme Lord Trivikrama! When there was no place left to keep his third step, Lord Vamana questioned Bali - “Bali, when i asked you to give only a place for my three steps, you said that this was the cheapest thing that you could expect from a king like me! Now see what has happened, there is no place left even to keep my third leg! Where will i place it now?”

On seeing this damage happening to their leader, all the asuras attacked the God by throwing all their weapons on him! On seeing this, Bali who was a **satvik in nature**, stopped them and said -“Because of God’s blessings only, we could rule this heaven till date. Now his Krupa-drishti is on the suras. So, whatever efforts you put to defeat him will go wasted. There is no one equal to the **greatness** of this Lord Trivikrama. So just surrender to him!” Later, lord Trivikrama ordered his servant Garudadeva to jail Bali as he had failed to fulfill his words! King Bali only offered a small piece of land to the God, but omnipresent God occupied the entire world! There is a **beautiful message** from this to all of us - Even in our everyday life, we must give at least some time to think of God and should devotedly offer our prayers to him, for his **immense grace** on us! Then for sure, God will be very much pleased on us and makes our life a blessed one!

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|| SANDESHA - 71 ||

| LORD VAMANA’S KINDNESS ON KING BALI ! |

When Lord Trivikrama ordered Garudadeva to arrest him, **king Bali** surrendering at the God’s feet started praying - “ಯದ್ಯುತ್ತಮ ಶ್ಲೋಕ ಭವಾನ್ ಮಮೇರಿತಂ...!! O lord! Without understanding your **unparallel greatness**, i spoke very wrongly! In this world where everything belongs to you, how can i donate your things to you only? Because of my ignorance, i thought that i’m a huge sacrificing person! Only you are **capable** of making my words true. You are the only one who made my grandfather Prahallada’s words true when Hiranyakashipu questioned him about your omnipresence! Now, only the place on my head is empty! You can place your third step on my head and thus make my words true.”

In this situation **Prahallada** came there and after learning about all these happenings, he started speaking nobly - “O lord! You have done a very good job. You are the one who gave all this kingdom and power to Bali. So you only possess the rights to take back the same from him anytime. We don’t have any rights to question about it to you! The **entire world** itself is yours, so you can give and take anything to and from anybody, anytime! Because of this power and wealth, Bali had developed **Ego**. Now you have taken

back all these things back and have blessed him to overcome his Ego. My **infinite pranams** for your kindness!”

Later, King Bali’s wife Vindhyavali who was one step ahead in sacrificing bravely spoke - “**ಕ್ರೀಡಾರ್ಥಮಾತ್ಮನ ಇದಂ ತ್ರಿಜಗತ್ ಕೃತಂ ತೇ..!!** O lord! You have done a great job! First of all, giving you the word of donating itself is a **big mistake** done by my Husband! One has the right to donate only his belongings, but when the entire world is under your lordship, how can my husband donate your place to you only? My pranams to you for giving the right punishment to my husband, which has made him to lose his Ego!”

Here a question may arise. We had earlier seen that through his two steps, Lord Trivikrama had already occupied all the worlds! Then Bali would also be inside that only. If this is the case, then how can he separately offer his head for the **third step** to be placed? We must carefully understand this, earlier Bali had **egoistically** offered his donation to God thinking that he was giving his place to God! But after seeing the unparallel act of Lord Vamana and failing to keep up his words, he **realised his mistake** and by surrendering and offering his head to God, he completely got rid off his ‘ego’ and thus ultimately became famous for his donation!

On seeing this, Lord Brahma intervened and prayed to God to bless King Bali for his immense devotion and sacrificing nature. Lord Vamana replied - “Brahmadeva, i purposefully did all this to upheld the greatness of Bali, who stood very firm to fulfill his words, irrespective of the advice from his guru Shukracharya! He has completely lost his ego now, i’m very much pleased on him. I’ve granted him the degree of **future Indra’s position** to him. After the term of present Indra, he’ll take that position. Untill then he can become the king for the Sutala loka, where i myself will be the gate keeper!” Astonished on seeing this immense grace of God on his grandson Bali, Prahallada offered his prayers and pranams to him!

What a beautiful message from this story of King Bali! God’s kindness on his devotees, sacrificing nature of King Bali, Prahallada and Vidhyavali’s restraint nature - everything are very inspiring to us. In our life also, we must never develop ego while doing good deeds. With the thought of ‘**NAHAM KARTHA, HARIH KARTHA**’ in our mind, we must completely surrender to God. When God decides to bless us, in the initial stages he purposefully makes us to face various kinds of exams to see our firmness of devotion in him! When we face them bravely with a firm belief in him, he surely blesses us!

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|| SANDESHA - 72 ||

| LORD MATSYA’S INCARNATION ! |

King Satyavrata was ruling the kingdom of Dravidian country. He was regularly going to the river Krutamala, to take bath and give arghya. One day, when he was collecting water through his hands to give the **arghya**, he not only noticed a **tiny fish** in that collected water but also heard a sound. When he dropped back the fish in the river, that fish started speaking - “O king, you are very kind hearted. But why did you drop me back to this river where there are huge fishes that are eagerly waiting to eat me! **ಕಥಂ ವಿಸೃಜಸೇ ರಾಜನ್ ಭೀತಮಸ್ಮಿನ್ ಸರಿಜ್ಜಲೇ..!!** You only tell, how can i survive in this river?”

Astonished on hearing this, the king kindly picked that fish from his hand and put it in a **Kalasha**. As soon as he returned to the ashram, he noticed that the fish had grown bigger and had also **completely occupied** that Kalasha. Then again that fish told him to shift it some other larger place. The king who got astonished on seeing this strange fish patiently again shifted it to a **vessel** and later to a **pond**. But the fish after immediately being shifted to a new place, began to grow and started to completely occupy that place. The fish had become so huge that after dropping it in **various rivers**, the king finally shifted it to the **ocean**

itself! Then again the fish started speaking - “O king, you have dropped me in this ocean. Are there are no other big fishes here to swallow me?”

Shocked on hearing this, Satyavrata who couldn't further control his **curiosity** asked the fish - “Who are you? Why have you come here? Why are you creating an illusion by taking this form of a fish? You are completely occupying all the places, immediately after i leave you there. On seeing this amazing act of yours which is notifying your **omnipresence**, i think you are the **supreme Lord Narayana** himself! Please explain me your purpose of this incarnation!” **Lord Matsya** replied - “On the Seventh day from today, there will be the ‘**Mahapralaya**’. All these worlds will be drowned in the water! At that time, a boat will come near you. You collect all the kinds of **seeds and medicines** required to continue the process of creation and put them in that boat. I'll rescue you along with that boat filled with all the kinds of animals and also the Saptarishis!”

If we closely look, there is similarity between God's incarnations of Vamana and Matsya. Small form of Lord Vamana later grew and took a huge form as **Lord Trivikrama**. Similarly, Lord Matsya who initially appeared as a tiny one, later took a very huge form! In this manner, Lord Narayana showcases his amazing qualities to his devotees! There is a beautiful message from this story - Small vessels were not sufficient to Lord Matsya. In the same way, if we possess **very little devotion** in God, it'll not be sufficient to please him. Satyavrata kept the fish in all the places and protected him. In the same way, we must completely lead our life by earning the proper knowledge of God, doing good deeds and other things through which God will be pleased. Also, from this story, **God himself has indicated** - “Think of me in your heart only, always! Build an ocean of knowledge required to please me! Then surely i'll protect you!” By understanding this, we should implement the same in our life and make this life an effective one!

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|| SANDESHA - 73 ||

| IMPORTANCE OF GOD'S BLESSINGS ! |

Astonished on learning about the purpose of Lord Matsya's incarnation, King Satyavrata offered his pranams to the supreme God and offered his prayers - “Our **inner-self** has become very impure because of being completely accumulated by the mud called Lust, anger etc. To get rid off all these, your blessings are very much necessary! A jeeva can overcome this impurity only when it involves itself in doing various spiritual rituals like penance, offering prayers etc., with the main intention of earning your proper knowledge.”

An example is illustrated here to explain this concept - When Gold is in native form, there are various other components along with it like steel, brass etc. This itself will never be called as ‘**Gold**’. Also this mixture is unfit for anything. Because of this mixture with all other alloys, pure Gold's original nature cannot be determined, it would have also lost its **original** brightness! To extract the original Gold from this mixture, we need to put this mixture of alloys in the fire. Only then the **pure Gold** will be able to showcase it's original form! So, to obtain a pure and real Gold, fire is very much necessary. Similarly, all the **good jeevas** are like a real Gold. But like the mixture of Gold with other alloys, the satvika nature of the jeeva has lost its purity because of the mixture of various errors as a result of **contact with this world** and the **bad karmas of previous births**! Like how this mixture is put in the fire to extract the pure Gold, all these jeevas must also be put in the fire called ‘**God**’, to extract its' Satvik nature! When we get in contact with God by involving ourselves in doing various good deeds, spiritual rituals, earning his knowledge etc., then like a pure Gold extracted from the fire, we jeevas too will be able to shine by getting rid off all our sins!

We everyday cleanse the utensils, wash the clothes to keep it clean and fresh. Even if it is not done for a single day, dust gets accumulated and makes the entire environment shabby! Similarly, all our spiritual rituals like doing Sandhyavandana, Pooja of omnipresent Lord Narayana in various forms, etc. must be done **everyday** to obtain god's blessings! Only with the water called '**Devotion in God**', we can get rid get rid off our infinite sins which are committed in every moment of our life. God's blessings is very much necessary in each and every aspect of our life, so all our duties must be done purely with the intention of obtaining God's blessings.

We have become completely blind because of our ignorance, as a result we are travelling here and there in this dense forest called '**Samsaara**' and leading a meaningless life! Only with God's immense grace we can earn his proper knowledge and do our duties sincerely to reach our destination called '**Moksha**'. By understanding the importance of God's blessings in every aspect of our life, we must completely surrender at his feet to lead a satisfied life!

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| NAVAMA SKANDA |

|| SANDESHA - 74 ||

| THE STORY OF SUKANYA ! |

King Sharyati had a daughter by name '**Sukanya**'. One day the king along with his daughter and all his army went to the ashram of **Chyavana rishi**, which was in the midst of the forest. The beautiful environment around the ashrama provoked this small girl Sukanya to roam around the forest along with her friends. When they were going around, Sukanya noticed very **bright light** from two holes in the ant hill, which was built on Chyavana rishi who had been doing penance from very long time. That light was actually an indication of the rishi's presence. Unaware of this, because of her childish nature and curiosity when Sukanya pierced inside those holes using a sharp stick, **blood** started flowing from there. Shocked on seeing this, Sukanya immediately came back.

As soon as this mistake of **disrespecting** the rishi happened, all the soldiers of Sharyati's army started facing the problem of urine arrest! Worried by this, when Sharyati inspected what had happened, Sukanya told him about all those earlier happenings. Immediately Sharyati went near Chyavana rishi and apologised him for the mistake that had unknowingly happened. Chyavana rishi who had become very old, told him that he will be forgiven only if Sukanya is married to him. Just for the welfare of all his soldiers, Sharyati decided to **marry** his young daughter Sukanya to old aged Chyavana rishi and after completing all the formalities of marriage, he left his daughter in the ashram of Chyavana rishi itself and went back to his kingdom.

When **Pativrata shiromani Sukanya** was leading her life by sincerely serving her husband Chyavan rishi, one day **Ashwini kumaras** came to their ashram. After receiving and serving them, Chyavan rishi told them - "Please grant me youthfulness, i'll offer you the Somapana in the Yagna!" Ashwini Kumara accepted the offer and holding the rishi with their hands, they took a dip in the pond which was created by the rishi in his ashram. When they got up, all the **three of them** appeared same like young Chayavana rishi himself! Confused on seeing this, Sukanya failed to recognise her husband and offered her prayers to Ashwini devatas to help her identify her husband. Pleased on seeing the **Paativratya** of Sukanya, ashwini kumaras granted back Chyavana rishi to her and also blessed the couple. In today's world, we see husbands becoming old very earlier because of the torture they receive from their wives! But here, because of her

devotion to her husband, Sukanya changed her old aged husband into a young one! All the wives should get inspired by this!

One day when Sharyati came to see his daughter, he was **shocked** to see Sukanya along with a young man and started scolding her - "My daughter, what are you doing? Leaving your great husband Chyavana rishi, you are living with some one else! How come you got this evil thought which would result in sending both the father's and husband's clan into the hell?!" Sukanya replied that he was none other than her husband Chyavana rishi and explained him about all the earlier happenings. On hearing this, Sharyati became extremely happy and heartfully blessed the couple. Later as per his words, Chyavana rishi offered **somapana** to Ashwini devatas in the yagna, after initially facing some hurdles from Devendra. ಶಯಾತಿ ಚ ಸುಕನ್ಯಾಂ ಚ ಚ್ಯವನಂ ಚೇಂದ್ರಮಶ್ವಿನೌ..!! Everyday after having food, we need to remember this inspiring story of Sukanya. **Message** from this story - 1) All our mothers should get inspired and serve their husbands with the thought of God in them, and thus make their life an effective one! 2) We should **never disrespect** the wise people. Even if they are not affected by our misbehaviour, kind hearted God who never tolerates any harm to his true devotees, himself gives the punishment to us!

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|| SANDESHA - 75 ||

| THE STORY OF KING NABHAGA ! |

One of the son's of Vaivasvata manu, **Nabhaga** who was a brahmachari was staying in a Gurukula for his education. During this time, all his brothers divided their **father's properties** among themselves by purposefully neglecting Nabhaga as he was a brahmachari and thus didn't even give a small portion to him. Nabhaga who became very upset on learning about this, came near his brothers and asked them for his portion in his father's properties. Ignoring to answer him, they all told him to ask his father for the same. When he approached his father and asked for his **portion** in his properties, after consoling him, his father told him - "All my properties have already been divided, so no need to discuss again about it. I'll show you another way : A huge **Satra** has started nearby. While doing the yaga, the Rutvijas will forget the mantras. You go there and remind them those mantras, they all will be pleased on you and will give all the remaining materials to you after the yaga. You can take all those and lead your life! No need of any confusions now."

Without speaking back, Nabhaga accepted his father's orders and went to the place of the Satra. As informed earlier by his father, Nabhaga reminded the **mantras** when the rutvijas forgot the same during the yaga. All the rutvijas who became very happy by this, gave all the **remaining materials** to Nabhaga and left the place. Happily receiving all those materials when Nabhaga decided to go back to his father, a **black coloured man** came there and told him that all those materials belonged to him. When Nabhaga told him that the rutvijas had given them to him, that black man told him to ask his father about this. Nabhaga sincerely came back to his father and informed him about all the happenings. On hearing this, Vaivasvata manu offered his pranams to that black guy and told his son Nabhaga - "My son, he is none other than **Lord Shiva** himself! He is the only one who has the **rights** over all the remaining materials of the yagna. All those things belong to him only. You don't have any rights in those materials, so give away all those things to him only!"

Nabhaga who didn't get his portion, neither from his father's properties nor from these remaining portions of the yagna, without getting disappointed, **honestly** gave back all those materials to Lord Shiva. Father, Vaivasvata manu did not leave **Dharma**, he honestly told him the truth that those materials

belonged to Lord Rudra. His son, Nabhaga did not oppose the **truth**, he honestly came and gave back all those materials to Lord Rudra. Pleased on seeing this sincerity and honesty of these two, Lord Shiva heartfully blessed them and specially blessed Nabhaga - "Not only the mantras related to the yagna, let you get the **Brahmagnaana**(Proper knowledge of God) itself! Let you get the realisation of God! Also, i'm giving back all this materials to you only, stay blessed!" Through his honesty and sacrificing nature, Nabhaga has shown us the importance of Dharma. He got both the spiritual as well as the physical wealth, because of firmly sticking to speaking the truth. By understanding the **importance of honesty** from this story of Nabhaga, we must get inspired to implement the same in our life to obtain God's blessings!

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|| SANDESHA - 76 ||

| THE STORY OF BHAKTA AMBARISHA ! |

Son of Nabhaga, **King Ambarisha** was a very knowledgeable person who had immense devotion, not only in God but also in his devotees. He was spiritually ruling the kingdom. He would mainly use his hands to clean the temples, ears to hear the greatness of God described in various ancient scriptures, eyes to see the idols of God, legs to go to various holy places, nose to smell the fragrance of God's prasadam (Hari nirmalya) and would completely utilise his body to serve the God's devotees. Such was the **greatness and humbleness** of Ambarish chakravarty.

Ambarisha was highly interested in following the ritual of '**Dinatraya**'. Once when he had fasted on the day of Ekadashi and preparing himself to receive god's prasadam (do parane) after abundantly donating and offering food to thousands of wise men with the thought of pleasing God inside them, **Durvasa rishi** came there along with all his shishyas. After being heartfully received by king Ambarisha, Durvasa muni along with his shishyas went to the river Yamuna to take bath and finish his ahnika. Even after long time when Durvasa muni didn't return, Ambarisha thought - "Only half muhurta of Dwadashi is remaining, if it is exceeded, the punya of twelve ekadashis' would be lost! If i take the food without waiting for the brahmins, that would be like disrespecting them. What shall i do now?" After thinking for a long time, as per the sentence described by wise men - 'ಅಂಬಸಾ ಕೇವಲೇನೈವ ಕರಿಷ್ಯೇ ವ್ರತಪಾರಣಂ...!!' he **drank the water** and completed his parane.

When Durvasa muni came back and learnt about this, he got **very angered** on Ambarisha and started scolding him - "O bad king! Have you developed ego because of your wealth? You have disrespected the guest by thinking that you are a great devotee of Lord Vishnu. I'll teach you a lesson!" Saying so, he created a **devil** through his hair and ordered it to attack Ambarisha, who was devotedly offering his pranams to supreme Lord Narayana. Even when the devil which was possessing a sword came near him to attack him, Ambarisha was firmly sitting by thinking about God! Pleased by the **devotion** of this king, kind hearted God **Lord Narayana** sent his weapon '**Sudarshana chakra**' to protect his devotee! This powerful chakra not only destroyed the evil but also attacked Durvasa muni for showing anger on the true devotee of God. Shocked on seeing this, Durvasa muni started running here and there to protect himself from this chakra! He first went to **Satyaloka** and prayed Lord Brahma to rescue him. But lord Brahma who himself was a servant of highest level to Lord Vishnu declined his prayers, stating that he alongside all the Devatas were themselves controlled by Lord Vishnu himself. Durvasa muni received the same response when he ran to **Kailasha** and approached Lord Shiva for his rescue. When he ran to **Vaikuntha** and approached Supreme Lord Vishnu, kind hearted God said - "ಅಹಂ ಭಕ್ತಪರಾಧೀನೋ ಹೃಸ್ವತಂತ್ರ ಇವ ದ್ವಿಜ..!! O Durvasa muni, i myself is a

subordinate to my true devotees! Even i cannot protect you from this chakra now! You better surrender to my devotee Ambarisha himself!”

On realising his mistake, Durvasa muni ran back and surrendered to Ambarisha and prayed him to rescue him from this Sudarshana chakra. King Ambarisha who was **very humble** enough, offered his pranams to the muni and prayed to Lord Narayana to rescue the muni. Immediately the chakra disappeared and the muni was rescued! It is not that Lord Vishnu nor his devotees right from Lord Brahma were **incapable** of rescuing Durvasa muni, who was none other than an another incarnation of Lord Shiva himself. They all acted so to **upheld the greatness** of Ambarisha chakravarty, who is a best example of how a true devotee will be! Only when we lead a quiet and sacrificing life, our life will be an effective one!

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|| SANDESHA - 77 ||

| THE STORY OF KING MANDHATA ! |

There was a King by name **Yavanashwa** who had hundred wives but did not have even a single child. This reason itself was enough for him to develop detachment in the worldly matters. On seeing this sad state of their king, kind hearted rishis conducted a yaga with the purpose of getting a child for their king. They had kept a **Kalasha filled with enchanted water** to give it to the queen, the next day. But Yavanashwa who had developed immense thirst during the night, failing to find his tired servants himself went in search of water and unknowingly drank that enchanted water to quench his thirst!

After some time, a **strange miracle** happened - A new history was created where a child which had to be born in a mother's womb, instead started growing in the **king's stomach** itself! By cramping the abdomen on the right side of the father, the child came out. In spite of all these miracles, nothing happened to the king because of God's blessings! On seeing the crying of the new born, everyone around became very happy. A father cannot breastfeed a child, as a result a new problem came up. On learning this, **Lord Indra** himself came down and offered his thumb itself to the child, through which it could drink the juice of Amrita itself! Later the child was named as '**Mandhata**'. He grown up to become one of the famous rulers who has been highly praised in the famous prayer '**Mangalshtaka**', not only because of his prowess, but also because of his goodwill and charity.

ಏಕ ರಾತ್ರೇಣ ಮಾಂಧಾತಾ ಶೀಲೇನೈವಾಜಯನ್ಮಹೀಂ...!! Earlier people were telling that sun never sets in the British Kingdom, which literally meant that the entire world had been acquired by the Britishers! Sun never sets, when it appears to set at one side, it would simply mean that it would have rose at other place. Similarly, through his **various good qualities**, king Mandhata had acquired the entire world! Only because of special blessings of all the Devatas and Rishi-munis, Mandhata could rule his kingdom in a glorious manner. The birth of Mandhata itself is a mysterious one which is a big challenge to even today's scientists! If the enchanted water itself possessed the capacity to make a man pregnant, no other example is required to highlight that anything can be achieved through the backing of spiritual strength!

By understanding the **greatness of spiritual power**, we must firmly engage ourselves to follow in our daily lives, at least some of the basic spiritual rituals like doing Sandhyavandanam, pooja of God, etc. Along with this and the blessings of God, if we sincerely do our duty according to our aptitude, then we can surely convert the **impossible things into an i'm possible thing** and thus make this precious life an effective one!

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|| SANDESHA - 78 ||

| THE STORY OF SOUBHARI MUNI ! |

Soubhari muni who was a wise man, one day was doing penance near the river Yamuna. Enjoying by seeing the form of God inside, when he opened the eyes, he saw a scene where a female fish was roaming around with a male fish. On seeing this, immediately the form of God disappeared and thought of enjoying the **worldly pleasure** appeared to Soubhara muni, who had come to do penance, lost his path and fell into the path of samsara! In search of a bride, he approached **King Mandhata** and asked him to marry his daughter to him. Shocked on seeing this old aged muni, the king got confused and thought - "If i disagree with his proposal, the muni will surely curse me! If i agree, then what about the future of my young daughter?" The king who had a firm belief that none of his daughters would like the muni who had become very old, came up with an idea and told the muni - "O muni! You only can go to my intuition and approach my fifty daughters. If any of them accept your proposal, i'll surely arrange your marriage!"

On learning about the inner intention of the king, Soubhari muni used his spiritual powers and appeared as if he was very young and then entered the intuition. All the **fifty daughters** of the king, on seeing this handsome young rishi got attracted towards him and decided to marry him! Astonished on seeing this, the king inevitably married all his daughters to him! One question may arise here - 'How can a muni who had sacrificed everything fell for these worldly pleasures?' It appears to be very silly, but the reason behind it is a different one - 'Soubhari muni, who was a **Aparoksha jnaani** had learnt that he would attain salvation only after taking birth for **fifty** more times. Thinking that this would unnecessarily cause delay for him to achieve his main goal, through his spiritual powers and God's blessings, he decided to lead fifty samsaras by taking fifty forms in one life itself and thus cleared his path for attaining salvation!

Once when king Mandhata came to see his daughters, on seeing this unimaginable scenes of enjoyment of the rishi, lost all his ego and realised the greatness of spiritual power! After a long time, Soubhari muni who had enjoyed all the worldly pleasures told - "ಅಹೋ ಇಮಂ ಪಶ್ಯತ ಮೇ ವಿನಾಶಂ..!! Look at my downfall! With the thought of leading a peaceful life by doing penance, i went near the shore of the river. But on seeing the romantic scene of the fishes, i lost my path which lead to all these **distractions**! Earlier i was alone, but now after marrying fifty wives, i've got five thousands of children. If i go on engaging myself in doing their upanayanas, marriages etc., my life itself goes wasted! One who involves himself in this samsara can **never think of God** and attain salvation! Turn your mind towards God and his devotees and thus make this life an effective one!" Saying so, the muni immediately sacrificed everything and went to the forest to do penance and then ultimately attained salvation!

What a **beautiful message** from this story! Only on seeing a small romantic scene of the fishes, the mind of the muni got distracted. Today, if we simply open our eyes, we are seeing such scenes everywhere! Here only we can understand the level of our strength of spiritual power! If we keep on going behind the **sensory organs** to fullfil their desires, we'll surely end up in going to hell. To get rid off this samsara, we must try to avoid seeing such scenes as much as possible to **prevent ourselves** from getting distracted from our main aim!

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|| SANDESHA - 79 ||

| THE STORY OF HARISCHANDRA ! |

After describing the story of Soubhari muni, Srimadbhagavata further describes the story of **Harischandra**. Harischandra was very worried as he had no children. So he prayed **Lord Varunadeva** to grant him a son and also gave a word to him - "If at all a child is born to me, i would offer it as a sacrifice to you!" If he would have got the child just to sacrifice it, then what was the use of him getting a child? Because of frustration of not having a child, without thinking Harischandra gave such promise to Lord Varunadeva.

When the child was born, immediately Lord Varunadeva appeared in front of Harischandra and asked him to keep up his word by offering him his child. Harischandra who just wanted a **excuse** to escape from this situation, replied - "Just now the child has born! So the first ten days are unfit for donating, i'll hand over the child after this period." After ten days when all the rituals were completed, Lord Varunadeva again approached Harischandra. Now Harischandra replied - "Still teeth has not come to my child, as soon as it grows i'll give him to you!" After the first tooth grown, when Lord Varunadeva approached Harischandra, he again gave an excuse - "This tooth is a temporary one, when it falls and the permanent teeth grows, i'll handover him to you!" In the same way whenever Lord Varunadeva approached him, Harischandra kept on giving excuses and thus failing to keep up his words, he got the name '**Asatya Harischandra**'!

After some years, when **Rohitashwa** the son of Harischandra grew up and learnt about all these things, he escaped into a forest to save himself from being sacrificed to Lord Varunadeva. As Harischandra failed to keep up his words, Lord Varunadeva's disfavour had fallen on him and thus he started suffering from the **waterborne disease**. Learning about this, Rohitashwa rushed back to his house and decided to fulfill his father's words. He gave hundred cows to Ajeegartharushi and bought his second son **Shunashegha** in return and told his father Harischandra - "Instead of me, offer him as a **sacrifice** to Lord Varunadeva and thus fulfill your words!"

When Shunashegha was being taken for the sacrifice, he approached **Vishwamitra muni** to rescue him from this situation. Kind hearted Vishwamitra muni gave an upadesha of a mantra to him. When he devotedly offered his prayers and pleased the Devatas, they all assured their protection to him. As a result, Shunashegha not only **escaped** the sacrifice but also helped Harischandra to fulfill his words. Pleased by seeing the sacrificial and honesty nature of Shunashegha, Vishwamitra muni himself later adopted him as his son. Later, Harischandra who **realised his mistake** and repented for the same, changed himself to such a level that just to keep up his words, he sacrificed all his wife, son etc. and even donated everything! Harischandra who earlier had gone to such a **low level** of offering some one else's son as a sacrifice for protecting his own son, now completely changed and completely offered his life to uphold the truth and thus became famous as '**Satya Harischandra**'! **Message** - From this story we must get inspired to implement various **good qualities** like truth, sacrifice, honesty, devotion, proper knowledge etc. in our daily lives as much as possible to lead a happy and prosperous life!

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|| SANDESHA - 80 ||

| GREATNESS OF KING BHAGIRATA ! |

In the lineage of Harishchandra, there was a king named Bahuka, who had a son by name **Sagara**. During the period of Bahuka, when he had become very old, all the foreigners attacked and completely occupied his kingdom. When Sagara became the king, through his **great ability** he attacked and defeated all those foreigners and got back his kingdom from them. As per the guidance from Vasishta maharshi, instead of killing them, he made all of them look ugly by giving them various forms of punishments like shaving off their head, moustache etc. After this victory, King Sagara wished to perform the **Ashwamedha Yaaga** and as per the customs, he sent the Yagnashwa to tour everywhere and thus get the support from all the rulers. When it was touring, **Lord Indra** abducted this Yagnashwa and tied it near Lord Kapila, who was residing in the **underworld**. Worried by the missing of this Yagnashwa, the **sixty thousand sons** of king Sagara started searching for it. When they found it near Lord Kapila, they got angered and ignorantly shouted - "You are the one who has stole our horse, now you are enacting as if you are meditating!" Saying so, when they tried to kill him, as soon as **Lord Kapila** opened his eyes, they were all burnt to ashes!

Amshumanta, the grandson of king Sagara who was later ruling the kingdom, then came to the underworld in search of the Yagnashwa and learnt about all the earlier happenings. On seeing Lord Kapila, he offered his pranams and **devotedly prayed** - "O lord! Ignorant people can never see you. Even wise men cannot learn fully about your greatness! For the sake of spreading right knowledge only, you have taken this form. Unknowingly my forefathers have done a mistake! Kindly forgive them!" Kind hearted God, who was pleased by these prayers, gave back the Yagnashwa to Amshumanta and also guided him - "These sixty thousand sons of Sagara will attain Sadgati when **river Ganga** flows over their ashes!" As per God's order, Amshumanta tried to bring river Ganga from the heaven, but failed to do so. Later his son, **king Dilipa** even after doing tough penance also failed to bring the river Ganga to this land.

Then his son, **king Bhagirata** did immense penance and finally succeeded in obtaining the blessings of mother Ganga. Pleased by his service, **mother Ganga** told him - "I'm ready to come to this world, but who has the capacity to withstand my force?" Bhagirata then thought that **Lord Shiva** himself was the right person and started meditating on him to obtain his blessings. Pleased by his devotion, Lord Shiva assured him that he would help him. River Ganga then started to flow from the **heaven** to this land. When she arrogantly tried to overcome Lord Shiva, he jailed her in his hair. When Bhagirata again prayed to Lord Shiva, he then allowed river Ganga to flow through his hair. Then she rapidly flew through the ashrama of **Jahnu rishi** and entered his stomach. Then again after Bhagirata prayed to the rishi, river Ganga came out of the ear of the rishi and became famous as '**Jahnavi**'. Finally the river Ganga flew through the entire Bharatakhanda and also flew in the underworld and over the ashes of the sons of king Sagara, who then attained Sadgati! In this way, king Bhagirata through his **immense efforts** finally not only helped his forefathers attain sadgati but also has helped all the infinite people of this holy land 'Bhaarta'. River Ganga then became famous as '**Bhaageerati**'!

We also should become Bhagiratas! We all should get inspired from him and put **continuous and immense efforts** to earn the proper knowledge of god - '**The Tattvagnaana**'! The river of knowledge should flow in the hearts of all the good people so that all the knowledge, devotion, sacrifice and other good qualities keeps on flowing like the waves, in this holy land! If we lead our life in this path, only then it can become an effective one.

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|| SANDESHA - 81 ||

| THE STORY OF LORD RAMACHANDRA ! |

The story of Lord Narayana's another incarnation, **Lord Ramachandra** and has been next described. We'll just have a look at the gist of it and try to understand very few messages from it. 1) ಗುರ್ವರ್ಥೇ ತ್ಯಕ್ತರಾಜ್ಯೋ ವ್ಯಚರದನುವನಂ ಪದ್ಮಪದ್ಮಾಂ ಪ್ರಿಯಾಯಾಃ...!! Just for the sake of following his father's words, supreme Lord Rama sacrificed everything including the kingdom. Even if he had opposed the words of Kaikeyi, nobody would have objected him. Infact, they would have become more happy. But Lord Rama happily accepted her orders and went to the forest along with his brother Lakshmana and wife Sitadevi and thus indicated that one should **never disobey** the elders. 2) Earlier he had upheld his devotee Ahalyadevi who was lying like a stone, then later he punished evil minded asuri Shoorpanaki. By doing so, he indicated that his **incarnation's main purpose** was protecting the good people and destroying the bad people. 3) Asura Ravana abducted Sitadevi. While searching for her, even various other creatures like birds (Jatayu), trees etc. supported him. This indicated that those who follows the **path of justice** will get support from everyone.

4) ರಕ್ಷೋವಧೋ ಜಲಧಿಬಂಧನಮಸ್ತೃಪೂಗೈಃ...!! Later Ramachandra came near the ocean. Even after fasting, when Varunadeva neglected to give him the way, he took his arrow and aimed at the ocean. Immediately Varunadeva realising his mistake apologised to him and gave way. This act of Ramachandra indicated that his first preference would be **forgiveness**, when it was ignored by Varunadeva, then he decided to punish him. 5) With the blessings of Sri Ramachandra, Hanuman along with Angada, Jambavanta and other monkeys built the bridge and thus helped all the monkeys to cross the ocean. We all are monkeys who are experiencing sadness because of thinking that these worldly pleasures itself are permanent. By this act, Sri Ramachandra indicated that to get over this ocean of samsara, we need to **follow the foot steps** shown by our gurus right from **Vishwaguru Acharya Madhwa**, who is none other than the third incarnation of Lord Hanuman himself. 6) First, Sri Ramachandra himself had taken **infinite forms** and single handedly destroyed fourteen thousand asuras who were giving immense troubles to the rishis. Even though he did not require any support from anyone, Sri Ramachandra along with the army of monkeys destroyed all the remaining asuras and their armies right from Ravana, Kumbakarana, etc. and thus gave an **opportunity** to all his servants, the devatas who had incarnated as monkeys, to **serve him**. Later after ruling the kingdom gloriously and giving all the luxuries to his citizens, he also took all his devotees along with him to his abode of Vaikunta at the end of this incarnation. Such is the **immense kindness** of Lord Ramachandra!

In this way, Srimad Bhagavata has beautifully summarised the story of Lord Ramachandra and has highlighted various ideals shown by him. By understanding the greatness of the God and following his footsteps, we must **surrender** at his feet and obtain his blessings.

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|| SANDESHA - 82 ||

| THE PURPOSE OF LORD PARASHURAMA'S INCARNATION! |

There was a Great emperor by name **Kartaveeryarjuna**, who was ruling the kingdom of Haihaya. One day when he had went to the forest for hunting, he saw the ashrama of **Jamadagni rishi** which was located nearby and then visited the same. The rishi heartfully welcomed the king and offered him the hospitality of highest level. The king who was both happy and astonished on seeing the kind of hospitality he got from

the rishi, because of his excess ego got the evil thought of abducting the rishi's cow which had the capacity to provide everything, like the heavenly cow '**Kamadhenu**'. Because of his ignorance, he neglected even the words of the rishi and forcibly took away that cow. This kind of behaviour was commonly seen in the kings of those times. Earlier King Koushika, who later became Vishwamitra rishi had also displayed similar behaviour after receiving the hospitality from Vasishta muni.

The main responsibility of Kshatriya force is to protect their citizens and help the needy ones to come out of their bad condition. But when the kings themselves started giving trouble to their citizens, kind hearted Lord Narayana himself incarnated as **Lord Parashurama** as the son of Jamadagni rishi and Renuka devi and fought a huge battle against all the evil kings! When the kings started ruling their kingdom in a lawless way, for the good of the citizens, Lord Parashurama started attacking them. He chipped off thousands of hands and legs of king Kartaveeryarjuna through his axe and brought back the cows to his ashram. Angered by this action of Lord Parashurama, the sons of Kartaveeryarjuna came to the ashrama of Jamadagni rishi when Lord Parashurama was not there and killed the rishi by cutting off his head! Shocked on seeing this, when Renukadevi shouted, Lord Parashurama immediately appeared there. With the intention of giving right punishment to all these evil kings, Lord Parashurama travelled around the entire world for **twenty one times** and destroyed all of them! He built a mountain of kings' heads and the sheath of blood. Such was the level of anger shown by Lord Parashurama against these evil minded kings who themselves were giving immense troubles to their citizens. Later he distributed all the lands of the kings to all the wise men. Such is the kindness of Lord Parashurama on good people!

Also lord Parashurama has done another unique work. Once when Renuka devi had gone to bring water for her husband, on seeing a beautiful **Gandharva**, thought of him for a fraction of second and then realising her mistake, came back to the ashram with the pot of water. Just for thinking of another person for a fraction of second, Jamadagni rishi got angered on her and ordered his sons to chip off her head! When all others refused, supreme Lord Parashurama who had the capacity to do anything, **chipped off** the heads of his mother along with all his brothers'! Pleased by this act of his son for following his words, when Jamadagni rishi told him to ask for a boon, Lord Parashurama asked him to grant back lives to all of them. As a result, all of them got new personality! By cutting and bringing back his mother's head, Lord Parashurama helped her to get rid off her evilness and develop goodness! We all should die and take birth everyday! Such is the level of **evilness** possessed by us! To overcome our evil mindedness and develop good mindedness, we must surrender to Lord Parashurama to obtain his special blessings!

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|| SANDESHA - 83 ||

| THE STORY OF KING YAYATI ! |

Srimad Bhagavata then describes the story of King Yayati. **Devayani** was the daughter of **Sri Shukracharya**, who was the king priest of the king Vrushaparva. The king had a daughter named **Sharmishte**. Both Sharmishte and Devayani who were very good friends, once had went to a beautiful garden along with all their friends and with the intention of enjoying themselves, they descended into the pool . At the same time **Lord Shiva** along with his wife **Parvatidevi** was travelling there. On seeing this, all these young women got shy and hurriedly got up from the pool and confusedly clothed themselves with others clothes! As a result, Devayani unknowingly had wore the sari of Sharmishte. Angered by this, Sharmishte **egoistically** started scolding her which later resulted in a fierce quarrel between them and ultimately Sharmishte pulled the sari from Devayani and pushed her inside the well which was nearby and then went away along with her friends.

King Yayati who had come for hunting in the same forest, on hearing the voice of this Devayani from the well, went there and not only helped her to come out of the well, but also gave his clothes to her to cover herself. On seeing this **helping nature** of the king, Devayani got affection on him and also **proposed** him to marry her. King Yayati, although he was not interested to marry her, thinking that as God's wish, married her. Meanwhile, Devayani who had developed **enmity** on Sharmishte, approached her father Shukracharya and told him about all the happenings. Sighed by hearing this, Sri Shukracharya resigned from his position as the King Priest and left the kingdom, along with his daughter. On learning this, **King Vrushaparva** who got scared that Sri Shukracharya would join the party of the Devatas, pleaded him to not to go and offered him to do any favour. Sri Shukracharya calmed down and told him to satisfy his daughter's wish. Later as per her wish, Sharmishte as well as her thousands of friends were sent as **a servants** to Devayani.

Devayani who was leading a happiest life with king Yayati, got two sons **Yadu and Turvasu** from him. In the mean time, Sharmishte while serving the king Yayati started getting desires according to her young age and thus proposed him to marry her. Yayati then secretly married her in the way of Gandharvas and got three sons **Druhya, Anu and Puru** from her. Later when Devayani got to know about all these happenings, she got shocked and complained to her father. Sri Shukracharya, who got angered on his son-in-law Yayati for cheating his daughter, without thinking twice cursed him to **lose his youth** so that he could not enjoy any of the worldly pleasures in the future! When Yayati pleaded him to forgive for his mistake, he told him that he could again become young only when some one donates their youth to him. When Yayati approached his sons to give him their youth, Puru accepted to it when all his four brothers neglected it.

Again after enjoying the worldly pleasures for thousands of years, finally Yayati got fed up of all these and gave a wonderful message to all of us - “ನ ಜಾತು ಕಾಮಃ ಕಾಮಾನಾಂ ಉಪಭೋಗೇನ ಶಾಮ್ಯತಿ..!! By enjoying the pleasures, one can **never get satisfaction**! As we keep on pouring the ghee to the fire, the intensity of the fire rapidly increases. In the same way, as we go on satisfying our worldly pleasures, the list of enjoying further goes on increasing! So the only solution to get away from this cycle is by **sacrificing** these worldly pleasures as much as possible!” Saying so, he not only returned his youth back to his son Puru and got back his old age from him but also handed over his kingdom to him and later went to the forest and did penance to obtain the blessings of God and finally attained Good world! Later on Puru gloriously ruled the kingdom and many famous kings came in his lineage in the future! What a **beautiful message** from this story - Even after getting old and losing the capacity to enjoy the worldly pleasures, the **desire** to enjoy them never ends! So we must try to minimise enjoying the worldly pleasures by sacrificing them to get rid off these desires!

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|| SANDESHA - 84 ||

| THE STORY OF KING RANTIDEVA ! |

In the lineage of King Puru, there came a king by name **Rantideva**, who went on to become very famous for his **sacrificing nature**. Srimad Bhagavata has beautifully described his story. Once, when Rantideva was ruling the kingdom, a severe famine occurred. For the sake of doing good to all his citizens, he donated everything to such a level that even his entire family could not afford for the water and fasted for **forty eight days**! Being a king, he could have continued living a luxurious life even when his citizens were struggling for food. Instead of doing so, he himself sacrificed everything for the goodness of his citizens.

After forty eight days, they got some food. After offering it to God, when he was about to eat it, a **hungered brahmin** came there as a guest and pleaded him for the food! The king, even in such a tough

situation, happily treated the guest and offered a majority portion of his food to him. After eating the food, the brahmin who got satisfied happily went away. Then when Rantideva was about to eat his remaining portion of food, a **hungered shudra** came near him and pleaded him to give something to eat! The king again happily offered him some portion of his food. As soon as this satisfied Shudra went away, a **hunter along with his dogs** came near the king and pleaded him to give him food! Thinking of God in everyone, Rantideva completely offered his remaining portion of food to all of them.

Even after all this, the fate did not leave the king. When he just thought of atleast drinking **water** to satisfy his hunger, a **Swapacha** who appeared as if he was in the stage of dehydration approached him to give him the water! The sacrificing nature of Rantideva was to such a highest level that he completely offered his water to him with the thought of pleasing God inside him and thus satisfied him! Even after doing so much of sacrifice, without any ego, Rantideva prayed to God - “ನ ಕಾಮಯೇಹಂ ಗತಿಮೀಶ್ವರಾಣಾಂ..!! O God! I neither want the lordship of this world, nor the heavenly bliss! Let the sadness of all the people come to me only! Let all of them live happily!” Everyday we pray to God only to get some temporary worldly pleasures like wealth, house, wife, children etc. as a return. But king Rantideva’s prayers were unimaginable!

He further continued - “ಕ್ಷುತ್ಪಿಶ್ತಶ್ಚಮೋಃ ಗಾತ್ರಪರಿಭ್ರಮಶ್ಚ....!! By giving food and water to everyone who came near me itself, my hunger, thirst and all other difficulties has gone!” What a **kind hearted** king he was! Even without thinking about his own needs, he sacrificed everything. Pleased by seeing this sacrificing nature of Rantideva, all the **Devatas** who had come near him through different forms to test him, appeared in front of him in their original forms and blessed him immensely. Later the king **attained salvation** by doing immense devotion in God!

What an inspiring message from this story! Even though we cannot develop such a level of sacrificing nature like king Rantideva, atleast according to our **aptitude**, we must develop the same. We must always be **Grateful to God** for his immense kindness on us always. In our daily earnings, apart from utilizing majority of it for our own needs, we must dedicatedly keep a portion of it to **serve** the needy people and other creatures, with the thought of God inside them. By doing so, God will surely be pleased on us and thus he will bless us much more immensely!

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| DASHAMA SKANDA |

|| SANDESHA - 85 ||

| LORD KRISHNA’S INCARNATION ! |

After describing the stories of various famous kings, as per the request of King Parikshita, Sri Shukamuni further describes in detail, the story of supreme Lord Krishna. When majority of the world was filled with evil people, **mother Earth** got very depressed and expressed her situation to Lord Brahmadeva, who then went along with all the Devatas and approached Lord Vishnu. Understanding all this, Lord Vishnu ordered them - “To **repress** all the evil forces, you all Devatas incarnate in this Earth. I too will incarnate to protect all the good people from these evil forces!” As per God’s orders, all the Devatas incarnated in this Earth. **Devaki**, the sister of asura king of Mathura **Kamsa** was married to **Vasudeva**. After all the ceremonies, when Kamsa himself was about to ride the chariot of the newly wed couple, a **bodiless voice** was heard - “Foolish Kamsa! You’ve been trapped in the illusion called your sister, your death will occur from her

eighth child only!" Shocked on hearing this, when Kamsa furiously took his sword to kill Devaki, Vasudeva prayed him in various ways and pleaded him to not to do so. When Kamsa did not pay heed to any of his preachings, Vasudeva inevitably assured him - "I'll offer you all the children that are born in my wife Devaki, please don't kill her now!"

When the first child was born, Vasudeva sincerely offered it to Kamsa. Pleased on seeing this honesty of Vasudeva, Kamsa told him - "Since my death is assured by the eighth child, you can take away this child now". As soon as Vasudeva took away the child back, **Narada maharshi** came to the palace of Kamsa and purposefully told him - "Kamsa, you are still unaware of the plan of the Devatas! They all have incarnated in the **Gokula** with the intention of killing you. All your evil activities have angered all the spiritual forces! Don't act too much, God will never spare you, beware!" As soon as Narada maharshi left the place immediately after saying so, evil minded Kamsa instead of overcoming his mistakes, further continued his evilness and **jailed** the couple of Vasudeva-Devaki in one of the prison's of his Kingdom.

Later, Kamsa killed all the **six children** which were born to his sister Devaki. The **seventh child** appeared as if it died inside the womb itself. Then supreme Lord Vishnu himself notified inside the womb of Devaki. All the Devats right from Lord Brahmadeva, on seeing this kindness of God offered their prayers - "ಸತ್ಯವ್ರತಂ ಸತ್ಯಪರಂ ತ್ರಿಸತ್ಯಂ..!! O Lord! You are the one - who is true to even the truth, described by the three vedas, who is responsible for the creation and all other activities of this true world and also the one who gives us the right knowledge! We all **surrender** at your feet." Pleased by all these prayers, from the womb of Devaki, Lord Vishnu incarnated on this Earth in the midnight, on the day of **Krishna paksha Ashtami** to destroy all the evil forces and protect his devotees. Such is the kindness of God on his devotees. Lord Vedavyasa has beautifully described this amazing unparallel form of Lord Krishna - ತಮದ್ಭುತಂ ಬಾಲಕಮಂಬುಜೇಕ್ಷಣಂ..!! Possessing the lotus eyes, all his weapons : Shanka, Chakra, Gada and Padma, decorated by the symbol of Srivatsa, wearing various ornaments like Koustubhamani, crown etc. ,**Lord Krishna** appeared in front of Vasudeva and Devaki! In this world, none of the children can be born in such a way. Right from the time of his incarnation itself, Lord Krishna **indicated** that he is completely different from this world! Describing the level of happiness of the Vasudeva couple fall short of words! After blessing them and indicating the further actions to be done by them, Lord Krishna took the form of a child.

What a beautiful **message** from this instance of Lord Krishna's incarnation! God incarnated as the eighth child of Vasudeva-Devaki couple. When we get rid off the **six enemies** residing inside us : Lust, anger etc. and overcome our **egoistic nature**, then Lord Krishna will surely **incarnate in our hearts** to destroy the Kamsa inside us, who is the representation of all the evil forces!

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|| SANDESHA - 86 ||

| GODDESS DURGADEVI'S AMAZING BUSSINESS ! |

When Lord Krishna incarnated in the midnight, it was raining heavily. As per the orders of Lord Krishna, when Vasudeva decided to take him from **Mathura to Gokula** and picked him in his hands, all the security guards got the sleep and automatically the gates of the jail opened itself! Also all the detention which were binding the hands of Vasudeva came off themselves! Vasudeva who was jailed for all these years, as soon as he took Lord Krishna in his hands, immediately **got rid off** the custody and all other detentions! All these happenings indicated that when we constantly think of Lord Krishna **inside our hearts**, we can surely get rid off this samsara. When we get to see God inside us, all the ignorance and other errors residing inside

us gets completely destroyed! Only then, with the special blessings of God, we can **attain salvation**. Various Upanishats have thrown light on this subject.

When Vasudeva stepped outside, **Lord Shesha** came and opened his hoodie and offered his seva to God by taking the form of an umbrella and thus protected him from the rain. As soon as Vasudeva approached river Yamuna to cross it to go to Gokula which was there on the opposite shore, the river itself gave way to him! When **Lord Ramachandra** wanted to go to Lanka, the ocean did not give way to him initially. When God took out his arrow to completely empty the ocean, the king of Oceans realised his mistake and surrendering at the feet of Lord Rama, he gave way to them to reach the kingdom of Lanka. Yamuna devi after seeing Lord Krishna who was none other than Lord Ramachandra himself, **got afraid** of him after remembering this incident and thus immediately gave way for Vasudeva!

As soon as Vasudeva reached Gokula, he went to the house of Nandagopa and **replaced** his son Lord Krishna with the new born daughter of **Nandagopa-Yashoda** couple, who was none other than the wife of Lord Krishna herself, **Goddess Durgadevi**! The next morning, when they got the news of a new born baby, the soldiers of Kamsa immediately informed him. **Cruel Kamsa** came running towards the child and with the fear of death, he snatched it from the hands of Devaki, even after she pleaded him multiple times to leave the child. When he was about to kill it, the girl child escaped from his hands and flew high in the sky. Taking her real form, **Eight handed Durgadevi** who was possessing various weapons warned Kamsa - "Foolish Kamsa! Your enemy who'll be responsible for your death is growing somewhere else! What will you gain by killing me? Unnecessarily don't trouble the common people!" Even after getting this warning from Goddess Durgadevi, evil minded Kamsa failed to realise his mistake and continued his evilness in even higher level. He **ordered** all his servants to kill all the **small children** which were residing in the same town. Meanwhile, in the Gokula, on seeing the boy child, the couple of Nandagopa and Yashoda became very happy. All the citizens of the Gokula happily rejoiced on hearing this news and **celebrated** the birth of Lord Krishna in a grand manner!

This incident highlights the **level of intimacy** possessed by the world's father-mother couple : **Lord Krishna and Goddess Durgadevi**! As per the orders of God, Lakshmid devi herself incarnated as Durgadevi and created illusion to the evil people, right from the moment of Lord Krishna's incarnation. We must all surrender to this never separated couple to obtain their blessings to get rid off all the evil powers and other illusions!

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|| **SANDESHA - 87** ||

| **PUTANA JEEVITA HARAYA NAMAHA !** |

When Yashoda was happily spending the days by looking after baby Krishna, one day, as per the orders of evil Kamsa, one of his servants **Putana** who was cruelly killing all the small children in the entire town, came to her house by taking a beautiful form. Without any difference between men and women, all were attracted towards her beauty. As soon as she saw the cutest form of Lord Krishna, she immediately took him in her hand and started to **breastfeed** him with the milk mixed with the poison! Her attractive form had created an illusion to Yashoda to such a level that even though she was standing right there, she failed to notice this. Lord Krishna not only drank the poisoned milk from her breast, but also **sucked her Prana** and killed her and sent her to the **hell** and blessed the **apsara Urvashi** and sent her to the **heaven**, who was residing inside the asuri Putana and fed the milk to him with immense devotion. Thus by killing her, Krishna began his glorious unparallel journey of destroying the evil powers! Shocked and astonished on seeing this, all the people later cut off the huge body of the asuri into multiple pieces and burned them into ashes - ಸಾ ಅಟಕಾ ಚೋರ್ವಶೀಸಂಪ್ರವಿಶ್ಯಾ....!!

After few days, Sri Krishna was taken to the temple by his parents for the **samskaara of externalizing**. When he was acting like he was sleeping, Yashoda placed him on the bottom of Shakata and involved herself in the function to such a level that she completely forgot about him. Taking this as an opportunity, another servant of Kamsa named **Shakatasura** who wanted to kill him took shelter in the same Shakata. On learning this, Krishna acting as if he was hungry purposefully started to cry and kicked that Shakata with his soft legs! As a result, the Shakata lost its balance and all the items that were kept on it fell down. In the midst of all this, the asura who was planning to kill Krishna, **himself got killed** by him! Again shocked on seeing this, Yashoda thinking that there was some trouble from a graha to Lord Krishna, immediately arranged some spiritual rituals from the Brahmins and later satisfied him by breastfeeding him - **ಅನಃ ಸಮಾವಿಶ್ಯ ದಿತೇಃ ಸುತೋಽಸೌ..!!**

Another day, when Yashoda was happily playing with Krishna by putting him on her lap, Krishna suddenly became **very heavy** like a mountain! Unable to withstand this, Yashoda placed him on the ground and went off to do her household work. Taking this situation as an opportunity, an asura named **Trunavarta** who was also one of the servants of Kamsa, came in the form of a strong wind and took away Krishna up into the sky! The entire town of Gokula was covered by this wind storm, as a result none of them could see what was happening around them. While the asura started taking, Sri Krishna increased his weight to such a level that that the **foolish asura** thought that he was carrying a mountain instead of Lord Krishna. When he was about to verify it, Lord Krishna **killed him** by strongly pressing his throat!

By killing these asuras, Lord Krishna has given us some **beautiful messages** - 1) We all have fallen to the **illusion of this samsara** called Putana. As a result, like Yashoda, we all have forgotten the omnipresent God who is residing inside us itself! When God destroys the illusion inside us, then only our life becomes an effective one. 2) Sri Krishna became very heavy to Yashoda. We also neglect God by saying he is very difficult to be seen and pleased! We think that doing the things to please him as **nuisance**. By thinking so, if we ignore him, he will escape from us like how he disappeared from Yashoda and we will never be able to obtain his blessings! By understanding all this **amazing businesses** of God, we must always think of him to obtain his blessings!

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|| SANDESHA - 88 ||

| SRI KRISHNA'S BALA LEELAS ! |

Srimad Bhagavata has beautifully described the Bala leelas of Lord Krishna. Everyday, all the Gopikas of Nandagokula would report various mischievous acts of him to his mother Yashoda - “**ವತ್ಸಾನ್ ಮುಂಚನ್ ಕೃಚಿದಸಮಯೇ ಕ್ರೋಶಸಂಜಾತಹಾಸಃ..!!**” Mother Yashoda, your son irrespective of the time, releases all the calves which would have been tied up and later **happily enjoys** the mooing of the cows. Whenever we ask him the reason, he tells us that it is his nature! He consumes all the milk and curd according to his satisfaction and later distributes the remaining portions to the cats. When we try to hide the vessels filled with milk and curds, he **breaks them** by throwing stones! When he gets nothing to eat, he gets angry on everybody and runs away after teasing the small children in our houses. When we tie him to a stone, he draws the stone itself and moves!” In this manner, the **complaints** on Krishna would never end. While the Gopikas enjoyed by looking at all these actions of Sri Krishna, his mother would enjoy by hearing those complaints about him by all of them. Such was the attractive nature of Lord Krishna!

Sri Krishna would regularly steal and eat the **butter** from everyone's house. By doing so, he indicated that **Lord Vayu** is his most favourite devotee! (Lord Vayu is the abhimani devata for butter) One day, when Krishna purposefully ate the mud instead of butter, all his friends ran to his mother and complained to her about this action of his. Yashoda on seeing Krishna who was acting as if he was afraid of her, scolded him

and told him to open his mouth. But Krishna kept on telling her that he had not ate the mud - “ನಾಹಂ ಭಕ್ಷಿತವಾನಂಬ ! ಸರ್ವೇ ಮಿಥ್ಯಾಭಿಶಂಸಿನಃ...!! Mother! I’ve not eaten the mud, everyone are telling lies about me!” Neglecting his answer, when Yashoda forced him to open his small mouth, she was shocked and astonished to see the **entire Universe** filled with mountains, stars, fire, wind, oceans, islands etc. inside it. From this, Sri Krishna again indicated that he was not a normal child but supreme God himself!

Once when Yashoda was churning the curd, Sri Krishna with the intention of **drinking milk** stopped her from doing her work and attracted her with his cute face, to breastfeed him. When she started **breastfeeding** him, suddenly the milk which was kept for boiling started to **overflow** from the vessel. On seeing this, Yashoda kept the owner of milky ocean, Lord Krishna on the floor and ran to the kitchen to remove the vessel of milk from boiling. Angered by this, Sri Krishna immediately started throwing stones and **broke open** the vessels filled with curds. As a result, all the curds started flowing and within no time the entire house was filled with it! When Yashoda furiously tried to catch him, Krishna started running here and there and **escaped** from her. After Yashoda got tired and failed to catch him, kind hearted Krishna got trapped in her hands. When she tried to tie him using the rope, everytime she was failing by **two inches**! By doing so, Krishna indicated that Yashoda failed to realise two things out of knowledge, devotion and Vairagya. Even though she had **devotion** in him, by thinking him as her son, she **failed to realise him** as God and also by running towards the milk vessel by keeping Krishna aside, she **failed to possess Vairagya**!

All these amazing actions of Lord Krishna gives us few wonderful messages! 1) Sri Krishna was very fond of butter. To obtain the butter, we must churn the curd. In the same way, when we utilise this precious life by **doing good deeds and following the footsteps** shown by our gurus, we can earn the proper knowledge of God and thus obtain his blessings! 2) Yashoda kept him aside for the sake of milk, as a result she had to loose all the curds and strive very hard to get him back. Similarly, we **keep God aside** for the sake of various worldly pleasures! If we do so, we can understand the level of loss we could experience in our precious life!

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|| SANDESHA - 89 ||

| SRI KRISHNA’S KINDNESS ON HIS DEVOTEES ! |

Once when **Yashoda** could not tolerate the mischievous behaviour of Krishna, she tied him to a **grinding stone** and resumed her house hold activities. Small boy Krishna started moving along with that stone itself. When that stone got stuck between **two Arjuna trees** which were standing very close to each other, he further pulled that stone forcefully to such a level that both the trees got cut and fell down! Immediately two Gandharvas **Nalakoobara and Manigriva**, who were standing in the form of those trees as a result of curse from Narada Maharshi for disrespecting him, came out and offered their pranams to Lord Krishna. Sri Krishna’s every act involved the destruction of evil powers and protection of his devotees. While the two Gandharvas got rid off their curse, two asuras named **Duni and Chamu** who were also residing in those trees got destroyed!

Later Sri Krishna with the intention of going to **Vrundavana**, created terrible wolves in large numbers, through his hairs! When these wolves started attacking the cattle and all the people, all the villagers who were unable to tolerate these troubles vacated the place of Gokula and went to Vrundavana. Once when Krishna was grazing the cattle along with all his friends, he noticed many people, cows, other animals, trees etc. dying by the influence of poison in the water in **river Yamuna**. When he got to know that the poisonous snake named **Kaliya** had entered the river and polluted it by his poison, Sri Krishna immediately jumped into the river and within no time reached the top of thousand headed snake! To teach him a

lesson, he **started dancing** on the snake and punished it in such a manner that all the poison that was inside it got squeezed! To see this amazing action of lord Krishna, all the Devatas, Gandharvas, Siddhas, Chaaranas etc. came down - ತಂ ವರ್ತುಮುದ್ಯತಮವೇಕ್ಷ್ಯ ತದಾ ತದೀಯ..!! Lord Brahma started playing Mrudanga, Lord Hanuman started singing, Lord Shiva played the cymbals etc. In this manner, all of them offered their sevas to the supreme Lord Krishna! Later as per the prayers of wives of the snake Kaliya, Lord Krishna left the snake unharmed and ordered it to vacate the river immediately.

Another day, when all the Gopalakas had planned to spend that night at the shore of river Yamuna, **terrible wildfire** invaded. Lord Krishna immediately protected all the Gopalakas by drinking that fire from his mouth! As per the Vedas, Lord Vishnu's mouth itself is the **birthplace** of fire. So this act of Krishna is not at all a wonder according to the wise men. Such is the **unparallel greatness** of Lord Krishna! All the Gopika women, who were highly attracted by the amazing qualities and form of Krishna, with the intention of marrying him were doing a ritual named '**Kaatyayini Vrata.**' One day, they had removed all their clothes and were bathing in the river Yamuna. Pleased by their seva, Sri Krishna appeared in front of them and took off their clothes! Later after they all **completely surrendered** to him after realising their mistake of taking bath without even a piece of cloth on them, he gave back their clothes and blessed them heartfully!

All these actions of Lord Krishna gives us few wonderful messages - 1) Yashoda tied Krishna to a stone, which then started to move because of Krishna's action. We all are like a grinding stone who **does not possess** any strength to do any actions. Only with the blessings of God, we can involve ourselves in doing our actions! 2) By shifting all the people from Gokula which had lost all its glory because of various forms of destruction and later punishing the snake Kaliya for polluting the water, Sri Krishna indicated his **love towards the environment**! 3) By protecting the Gopalakas from fire and guiding the Gopika women, Sri Krishna has beautifully indicated his **immense kindness** on his devotees! By understanding all this, we must surrender to him to stay blessed!

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|| SANDESHA - 90 ||

| GOPALAH SARVA PALAKAYA NAMAHA ! |

One day, when Krishna had went to gaze the cattle, all the gopalakas expressed their hunger and pleaded him to arrange them something to eat. **Kind hearted Krishna** suggested them to go to a nearby place where all the brahmins were doing a **Yaga**. As per his guidance, all the gopalakas introducing themselves as the friends of Krishna and Balarama, approached the brahmins and requested them - "ಗಾಶ್ವಾರಯಂತಾವವಿದೂರ ಓದನಂ ರಾಮಾಚ್ಯತೌ ವೋ ಲಪತೋ ಬುಭುಕ್ಷಿತೌ....!! O wise men, Krishna and Balarama who are gazing the cows in the nearby place have become very hungry. They are expecting the food from your side, if you have **devotion and diligence** in them, please do provide them the food!" Even after clearly hearing these prayers of Gopalakas, the brahmins purposefully neglected them and continued their rituals without even responding to them. The Gopalakas who were already **perplexed by hunger** disappointedly came back and informed Krishna about all the happenings.

Later as per the suggestion from Sri Krishna, when they all approached **the wives of those brahmins** and requested them for food, all the mothers started dancing happily on learning that Sri Krishna himself had directly come to receive their food! Without thinking further, even neglecting their husbands, they themselves took all the **various recipes** which were prepared for the ritual and directly came near Lord Krishna and offered them at his feet. Sri Krishna along with all the Gopalakas happily ate all the food and

heartfully blessed those mothers! The brahmins who realised their mistake of losing the opportunity of serving God directly because of their foolishness, later repented immensely!

Once, all the Gopalakas decided to do a pooja in grand manner to **Lord Indra**. When Krishna asked them the reason, they told - "Every year we offer our pooja to Lord Indra, with the intention of getting proper rains and crops." Supreme Lord Krishna who had learnt that Lord Indra had developed ego, **purposefully** told them - "Gopalakas! This year, instead of offering pooja to Devendra, you offer your prayers to all the **cows, brahmins, trees, fire** etc. Everyday we are receiving so much comforts from all of them. Thinking of special presence of God in all of them, we will **offer our prayers** to them and also to this **Govardhan mountain!**" When all the Gopalakas started offering their pooja to all these, Devendra got very angry and with the **intention of flooding** the entire city of Vrundavana started to pour rain very heavily! Lord Krishna then lifted the huge Govardhan mountain through his **little finger** and ordered everyone to take protection under it. When Devendra through his ignorance further increased the intensity of rain, Krishna told him - "ತಸ್ಮಾನ್ನಚ್ಛರಣಂ ಗೋಷ್ಠಂ ಮನ್ನಾಥಂ ಮತ್ಪರಿಗ್ರಹಮ್....!! I'll surely rescue my true devotees who has surrendered at my feet for protection from me! This is **my promise!**" Saying so, he rescued all of them under that mountain continuously for **seven days!** After realising his mistake, Lord Indra immediately stopped the rain and offered his pranams and sincerely apologised to Lord Krishna and later he also offered his pooja to the environment with the thought of God inside it!

These incidents have given us few **wonderful messages** - 1) The brahmins who were continuously involved in doing **various rituals** like penance, Yaga, etc. with the intention of seeing God, **failed** to recognise God who himself had sent those Gopalakas! Our situation is similar to this, thinking that only by doing the spiritual rituals God will be pleased, we **fail to do all our Karmas** with devotion in him and thus neglect to offer them to him! God expects nothing else from our side, except **Devotion!** So we must properly understand this concept of Devotion and surrender at his feet. 2) By protecting all his devotees from the flooding situation and teaching a lesson to his devotee Devendra which further helped him to realise his mistake, Sri Krishna once again has showed his **immense kindness on his devotees!** By thinking of this greatness of God, we must offer our prayers to him!

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|| SANDESHA - 91 ||

| SAMSARA VAIRI KAMSARINE NAMAHA! |

During the period of **Sharad rutu**, Krishna was playing his flute in the moonlight at the shore of river Yamuna. Attracted by this melodious music, all the Gopikastrees left their ongoing work immediately and came running towards him! On seeing this, Krishna told them - "Go back and resume your work! Coming out from your house in the midst of this night is not a right thing. Serve all your family members with the thought of me in them, i'll surely bless you!" Hearing this, the Gopikastrees replied - "ಯತ್ಪತ್ಯಪತ್ಯಸುಹೃದಾಮನುವೃತ್ತಿರಂಗ...!! O lord! As per your words, serving our family members itself is our duty which will please you, that's true. But you are the one who is not only our real husband, son, friend etc. from infinite times but also responsible for all the happenings of this world! When this is the case, how can we stick only to our family members who are just with us only for this life? You are **everything for us**, we'll not leave you!"

Pleased by their prayers, Krishna happily accepted them and started to wander with them. After some time, when he realised that all these Gopikastrees had developed **ego**, he suddenly disappeared! Shocked by this, all of them started searching for him everywhere. Failing to find him, they all started crying with devotion and offered their prayers which became famous as '**Gopi geeta**' - ಜಯತಿ ತೇಽದಿಕಂ ಜನ್ಮನಾ ವ್ರಜಃ...!! Pleased by their prayers, again Krishna appeared in front of them and made them happy! By this

incident, Sri Krishna being a supreme one indicated that he **does not need** any of the external factors for his happiness and enjoyed with all those Gopikastrees just to bless and make them happy!

Meanwhile, when all his hundreds of servants failed to kill Krishna, **cruel Kamsa** became very anxious and came up with a plan of bringing Krishna himself to his place and thus organised an event named **Dhanush Yagya**. To invite him, he sent one of servants named **Akrura**, who was basically a devotee of Lord Krishna by nature. Akrura happily came to Vrundavana and after offering his pranams and prayers to both Krishna and Balarama, he invited them to Mathura. Supreme Lord Krishna who knew all the plans of Kamsa, with the intention of killing him, started to Mathura along with Balarama. On their way, Akrura stopped near the shore of **river Yamuna** to do the Sandhyavandana. When he took a dip in the river, he was astonished to see the moola roopa of Lord Krishna - Lord Vishnu sitting along with his wife on the bed of Lord Shesha while another form of Krishna who had come with him from Vrundavana was sitting in the chariot itself! Thinking of this **unparallel greatness of omnipresent God**, he offered his prayers to him.

As soon as they reached the town of Mathura, both Krishna and Balarama were grandly welcomed by all the people, who were **fed up** with the ruling of evil Kamsa. On their way to the palace, some servants of Kamsa who were good by nature devotedly served the duo of Krishna and Balarama and got their blessings, while others who were evil in nature ignored them and got killed by them. When they entered the palace of Kamsa after killing the evil elephant **Kuvalayapeeda**, wrestlers **Chanura and Mushtika** welcomed and attacked them. After killing them, Krishna directly broke the '**Shiva Dhanas**' and attacked Kamsa and pulled him from his throne by pulling his hair. After fighting for some time, Sri Krishna finally **killed Kamsa** and thus destroyed the evilness of the kingdom! All the citizens rejoiced on seeing this and praised the greatness of Lord Krishna! What a beautiful message from this incident! Our **life** itself is like a city of **Mathura**. Kamsa who is a representative of **Adharma** himself is ruling this kingdom of life. Kamsa tried to avoid Krishna enter his palace by making his servants to attack him. In the same way, our **various enemies** like lust, anger, ego etc. are preventing us from seeing God inside us! When Kamsa got killed, the evilness vanished. In the same way, when we try to overcome all these errors as much as possible and obtain the blessings of God, we can see him!

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|| SANDESHA - 92 ||

| IMPORTANCE OF OUR EFFORTS ! |

After killing Kamsa, Krishna released his parents **Vasudeva-Devaki** from the jail and offered his pranams to them. Later he assigned Kamsa's father Ugrasena as the king of Mathura and invited back all the refugees who had left the kingdom during the ruling of Kamsa and made all the arrangements to them. Further, **Gargacharya** did the upanayana samskara to Krishna at his eighth age. Sri Krishna then pretending to get the education, went to the ashrama of **Sandeepini rishi**, mainly with the intention of blessing him. After few years, Krishna bought back the son of Sandeepini rishi who had got untimely death and offered him to his guru, in the form of Guru Dakshinam.

Later Krishna ordered **Uddhava** to go to Nanda gokula and told him to inform about all the happenings to everyone there. Yashoda, all the Gopalakas and Gopikastrees who were eagerly waiting to see Lord Krishna, happily welcomed Uddhava who then told Yashoda - "ಯುವಯೋರೇವ ನೈವಾಯಮಾತ್ಮಜೋ ಭಗವಾನ್ ಹರಿಃ...!! Mother Yashoda! Lord Krishna who is filled with infinite qualities in not just your son, he is everything right from father, mother, friend etc. to everyone! He has come here to do welfare for the entire world, so don't be sad with missing him. His blessings will always be there!" After consoling Yashoda, later Uddhava also **consoled** all the Gopika women and other people of the city and told them - "You all are thinking of Krishna more when he is not here than when he was here. Even though he appears

to be very far, he is omnipresent and is here only! Don't worry." Then Uddhava after staying for many days, left back to Mathura and informed Krishna about all the happenings.

Meanwhile, **Supreme lord Krishna** with the intention of preventing the damage to entire world that might occur in future, sent his message to Drutarashtra through his servant **Akrura**. On meeting Drutarashtra, Akrura told him - "Your sons' behaviour in the matter of Pandavas is not a wise one! If it is continued further, surely it'll harm the **entire mankind**. You should treat your brother Pandu's sons equally like your sons. You should loyally rule the kingdom in good manner by adapting various good qualities like conduct, behaviour etc. All the citizens should receive equal rights and none of them should be treated unequally. Don't fall to the **prey of illusion** about your sons!"

After patiently hearing the words of Akrura, Drutarashtra replied - "Akrura, i thank you for your wise words. It was nice to hear, but **following it practically** is very difficult! It is true that i've fallen prey and have developed over attachment towards my sons. But God himself is the **real witness** to all this no? When God's wish itself is like this, what can i do? Everything happens according to his plan, so what needs to be happened just happens, i'll act accordingly" By saying so, instead of overcoming his mistakes, Drutarashtra neglected the warning sent by Krishna and continued his ruling.

Even today, when **guidance** is given from elders and other wise men to follow various duties, most of us neglect them by saying that everything happens according to God's wish. **Vishwaguru Acharya Madhwa** has specially highlighted in his works that along with God's blessings, our **sincere efforts** are very much necessary to achieve anything in life. Only when both our efforts and God's blessing synchronise, then we can for sure achieve our goal. By understanding the importance of our efforts, we should involve ourselves in our duties and think of God all the time. Only then, we can obtain his blessings!

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|| SANDESHA - 93 ||

| THE DEFEAT OF JARASANDHA ! |

After the death of King Kamsa, his wives **Asti and Prasti** came near their father Jarasandha and informed him about all the happenings. The king of Magadha, **Jarasandha** on learning that his son-in-law Kamsa was killed by Lord Krishna, developed immense enmity on him and made a **vow** to destroy the entire clan of Yadavas! Once, with the intention of directly killing Krishna, Jarasandha thought of throwing his mace from his palace to Krishna's place. But he was not sure about the exact distance of Mathura from his place. When he was thinking of this, Narada maharshi came there at the same time. When Jarasandha immediately asked him about this to him, Narada maharshi who knew the evil intention of Jarasandha cleverly replied - "O Magadhesha, the exact distance from here to Mathura is **one hundred Yojana!**" Foolish Jarasandha got confused and threw his mace at exact hundredth yojana and missed Krishna's place by one yojana! As a result, the mace fell in a place in a dense forest and thus instead of killing Krishna, it **killed Jara**, the mother of Jarasandha who was residing there. **Bhavi Sameera Vadiraja guru Sarvabhoulmaru** while describing this incident in his work '**Rukminisha Vijaya**' has given a wonderful message - "One who thinks to do injustice to a wise one, himself needs to face the ill effects! Jarasandha is a best example for this."

Later, Jarasandha with the intention of killing Krishna, along with his huge army of **twenty three Akshohini** attacked the kingdom of Mathura. As per the orders of Jarasandha, many efficient rulers like Drupada, Bahlika etc. had also joined his army. Before waging the war, Jarasandha sent his message to Krishna, through his servants who **sarcastically** informed him - "Our leader Jarasandha wants to see you! Without thinking, he had married his both the daughters to Kamsa, he had failed to notice brave people

like you! So he has decided to go to the forest, before going he wants to see you.” As a reply for this, Sri Krishna **cleverly** told them - “Let your leader Jarasandha’s words become true! Let him go to the forest! It’ll be very much helpful for both himself and the entire world!”

On hearing these words of Krishna from his servants, Jarasandha furiously attacked him. In his first attempt itself, he not only got easily defeated by Krishna himself but also by **Balarama**. Insulted by this, when he seriously decided to go to the forest, all his followers prevented him and consoled him - “Winning and losing are just a part of war, why are you worrying so much for that? Again put your efforts!” As a result, foolish Jarasandha paid heed to all their words and not only attacked Krishna multiple times but also faced defeat from him everytime! In the meantime, Narada maharshi had purposefully provoked an asura named **Kalayavana** by highlighting the greatness of Lord Krishna. With the intention of showcasing his prowess in front of Krishna’s, he too decided and attacked Mathura along with his army! On learning this, Jarasandha also again attacked Mathura along with Kalayavana, but again faced defeat.

Supreme Lord Krishna, who was easily capable of killing Jarasandha **purposefully** left him with the intention of destroying all the evil powers at a single place, as they would come along with the army of Jarasandha, everytime! By doing so, Krishna destroyed all the evil kings everytime and would leave Jarasandha. By doing so, Krishna continued his **incarnation’s main purpose** of destroying the evilness from this world. By understanding this greatness of God, we all should surrender to him and pray him for destruction of all the evil powers residing inside us!

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|| SANDESHA - 94 ||

| MUCHUKUNDA PRASADAKRUTE NAMAHA ! |

When both Jarasandha and Kalayavana tried to attack the city of Mathura, Lord Krishna cleverly created a new town named ‘**Dwaraka**’ at the midst of the ocean and shifted everyone to there from the city of Mathura. This amazing act of supreme Lord Krishna cannot even be imagined! Later both Balarama and Krishna got ready to face Kalayavana and came out of their palace. On seeing Krishna with no weapons, Kalayavana decided to attack him in the same way and started following him. When he went very close to him, Krishna started running from him. **Foolish asura Kalayavana**, thinking that Krishna had got afraid and was trying to escape from him, started chasing him. Lord Krishna entered a cave which was nearby and disappeared.

As soon as Kalayavana entered the cave, he saw **king Muchukunda** sleeping and **confused him** to Lord Krishna. Without thinking further, when he awoke the king, Kalayavana immediately **burnt into ashes**! King Muchukunda who belonged to the clan of Ikshwaku, as per the prayers of Devatas had helped them immensely during the **war** between the Devatas and the Daityas. After they won the war, Devatas who were pleased by the service of the king decided to grant him a boon. When they told him to ask for a **boon**, the king who had become very tired requested them - “If you are really happy with my service, do grant me the boon of sleeping peacefully in a place where there is no one present!” Devatas granting him the boon also blessed him and told - “O king, whoever tries to wake you up will turn into ashes **as soon as you see them!**” As per this boon from the Devatas, when Muchukunda saw him, Kalayavana burnt into ashes.

Later on seeing Lord Krishna, Muchukunda offered his prayers to him - “ಪಾದಾಂಬುಜಂ ತೇ ನ ಭಜತ್ಯಸನ್ಮತಿಃ ಗೃಹಾಂಧಕೂಪೇ ಪತಿತೋ ಯಥಾ ಪಶುಃ..!! Like how all the animals are falling into this samsaara, i too wasted my life by enjoying all the worldly pleasures when i was the king! But also, you have

shown immense grace and come here to bless me. I don't want any material comforts from you, only grant me an opportunity to serve you!" Lord Krishna, who was **pleased** by these prayers immensely blessed him and granted him salvation.

This story highlights **amazing business** of Lord Krishna. Through his devotee Muchukunda's eye sight itself, asura Kalayavana was killed. Later through his kind sight, Krishna immensely blessed Muchukunda. The act of Kalayavana has given us a **wonderful message** - When he entered the cave, Kalayavana failing to see Lord Krishna who had hidden himself, thought Muchukunda himself as Lord Krishna and tried to wake him up. As a result, he died immediately. **Our heart** itself is a cave where both the **jeeva and God** are residing. Both of them are entirely different. Failing to notice it, if we think that Jeeva himself as God (Aham Brahmasmi) or vice versa, then for sure we'll get into the trouble of **facing disasters** in our life! By understanding the **importance of proper knowledge**, we must try to earn it as much as possible to obtain the blessings of God.

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|| SANDESHA - 95 ||

| KRISHNA - RUKMINI KALYANA ! |

Jarasandha and all other asuras had decided to marry the daughter of king Bheeshmaka, **Rukminidevi** to Shishupala. Rukminidevi, who was none other than Goddess Lakshmidivi's incarnation herself, who wanted to get Lord Krishna himself as her husband, on learning about the all the arrangements being made for her **Swayamvara** by her brother Rugmi and his counterparts, immediately wrote and sent a love letter to Lord Krishna through a brahmin. The **brahmin**, on reaching the place of Lord Krishna, offered his pranams and started to read the matter of that letter. Rukminidevi had beautifully described the greatness of God and proposed him to marry him - "ಶ್ರುತ್ವಾ ಗುಣಾನ್ ಭುವನಸುಂದರ ಸಂಗಮಾಂಸ್ತೇ...!! O fascinating God, you have deeply attracted me because of your unparallel beauty! I deeply want you as my husband, i know that i can **never be equal** to in any of the parameters like qualities, beauty etc. I'm completely surrendering at your feet! Please rescue me from these asuras who are planning to marry me to cruel Shishupala. If any good deeds are done from my side, from the fruits of them atleast, please take me as your wife and protect me!" Lord Krishna knew everything about Rukminidevi, while Rukminidevi through this letter showcased her feelings just for the sake of displaying it to everyone!

After hearing all these words from the brahmin, Krishna **accepted her proposal** and decided to go to the kingdom of Vidarbha. On learning this, Jarasandha and others, who somehow wanted to **avoid** the marriage between Krishna and Rukmini, started to think to do something. But on hearing the same news of Krishna's arrival, all the good citizens of Vidarbha rejoiced and eagerly waited for that moment of marriage between those two. As per her plan, Rukminidevi started towards the **temple of Ambika**, to complete some spiritual rituals. She was eagerly waiting for Krishna to take her from there. To avoid this, Jarasandha and others had arranged tight security around her. But all those foolish soldiers fell in the **trap of illusion** created by the beautiful form of Rukminidevi and completely lost their conscious forgot to be alert about the happenings around them. Taking this as an opportunity, **supreme Lord Krishna** immediately came there through his chariot and took Rukmini along with him in a flash of time!

All the soldiers who got back their senses, failed to notice the amazing business of God and repented for their foolishness. Angered by this, when Jarasandha and others tried to attack Krishna, Balarama and all the Yadavas prevented and defeated them! Rugmi who continuously followed Krishna to get back his sister from him, with the intention of marrying her to Shishupala, also faced defeat the hands of Krishna and came back disappointedly. When Krishna along with Rukmini entered **Dwaraka**, all the Yadavas and citizens

gloriously welcomed them. Later for the purpose of following various spiritual rites associated with the marriage, the Yadavas themselves divided into **two groups** where one group joined the party of Lord Krishna and the other group joined the party of Rukminidevi. After all the formalities, the **marriage of Lord Krishna and Rukminidevi** concluded in a grand manner!

The entire world's father and mother, Lord Vishnu and Goddess Lakshmidēvi couple are **never separable**! All these actions are performed by them purposefully to bless the good people (true devotees) and also to create an illusion to the bad people! This incident of kalyanotsava of Krishna and Rukmini gives us a wonderful message - 1) Rukmini devi, who is a **representative** of all the Vedas and all the wealth, always wanted Krishna as her husband and hence neglected all others. This itself indicates that supreme Lord Krishna himself is the only one, who is **mainly praised** by all the Vedas! Also, this indicates that all the wealth that is earned by us should never be wasted for any of the bad deeds and must always be utilised for doing various good deeds through which God will be pleased! By understanding this, we must **sincerely surrender** to God and lead the life in the right path!

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|| SANDESHA - 96 ||

| THE SYAMANTAKA UPAKHYANA ! |

One of the yadavas in Dwaraka, **Satrajita** had devotedly offered his prayers to Lord Surya for many days. Pleased by these prayers, Lord Surya appeared in front of him and granted him a very precious stone named '**Syamantaka mani**'. The amazing greatness of this stone was so much that it would everyday give eight kilograms of Gold and also the place where this stone was there would never experience drought or any other disasters. Wearing this precious stone, Satrajita started roaming around everywhere. On seeing this, **Lord Krishna warned him** - "Satrajita, you have got this precious stone by doing penance. This stone should not be used only for your selfishness! Add it to the treasure of the kingdom, let it be helpful for all the citizens." But Satrajita neglected this words of Krishna and continued to wear that stone.

One day the brother of Satrajita, **Prasena** wore this precious stone and went to the forest for hunting. A **lion** killed him and took that stone and went away. Later on seeing this, **Jambavanta** killed that lion and took that mani to his den and tied it to the cradle as a toy to the child which was there. Meanwhile, when Prasena failed to return even after many days, Satrajita without learning about the reality unnecessarily **blamed Krishna** by telling that he was the one who had created this plan to get that precious mani! Lord Krishna who then went on searching for the mani, noticed the footsteps of the Lion initially and then the footsteps of Jambavanta and then he alone entered the cave and ordered his servants to stay outside the cave itself and also told them to leave the place if he failed to come out of the same even after **twelve days**!

Jambavanta, who was a brave fighter during **Tretayuga**, on seeing Krishna unknowingly attacked him and a fierce battle happened between them for **twenty eight days**! When Krishna showcased his previous incarnation of **Lord Ramachanda** to him, Jambavanta immediately offered his pranams to him and repented immensely for his mistake and then not only gave back the Syamantaka mani to Krishna, but also **married** his daughter **Jambavati** to him. All the servants, as per the orders of Krishna himself had already returned to the palace and had informed about all the happenings. All the yadavas who had become very anxious, on seeing Lord Krishna coming back along with the mani and Jambavati, rejoiced immensely! Satrajita, who **repented** immensely for his mistake of unnecessarily blaming Krishna, later not only gave back the Syamantaka mani back to him but also offered his daughter **Satyabhamadevi** to him. Kind hearted Krishna returned back the Syamantaka mani to him and only accepted Satyabhamadevi. Thus

Satyabhamadevi, who was also an **incarnation of Goddess Lakshmidēvi** herself was married to Lord Krishna in a grand manner.

Both **Satyabhamadevi and Rukminidevi** are the incarnations of Goddess Lakshmidēvi herself! There is no difference between them. Later they acted as if they were quarrelling just to **create illusion** to the bad people. We must properly understand this. Through this incident of Syamantaka mani, Lord Krishna has given us a **message** - God who had no compulsion to prove his non-involvement in the incident of Prasena's death, decided to get rid off this false blaming, went in search of the mani. By doing so, he indicated that one must never try to hide himself from any of the false blames, but should try to get rid off it at the earliest. By understanding the kindness of God, we must surrender to him to obtain his blessings!

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|| SANDESHA - 97 ||

| MURARIHI NARAKA HANTAKAYA NAMAHA ! |

Narakasura, the son of mother Earth, was a very cruel ruler who was giving immense trouble to everyone. He had built a very strong fort around his palace in such a way that no enemies could enter his kingdom. When his level of misconduct exceeded to a very high level, **Lord Krishna** decided to kill him and thus went along with his wife **Satyabhamadevi** to the place of Narakasura, **Pragjotishapura**. When Krishna successfully crossed all the vicious ways created by the asura and was about to attack him, his minister **Mura** stopped him and attacked him along with his strong military force. Krishna easily defeated and killed him and became famous as '**Murari**'!

Then, a **fierce battle** started between Lord Krishna and Narakasura. After fighting for a long time, when tired asura found no other way, he let the **powerful Brahmastra** on Krishna. Kind hearted Lord Krishna, with the intention of upholding his devotee Lord Brahmadeva's greatness, purposefully acted as if became unconsciousness! Immediately Satyabhamadevi entered the battle field and not only attacked the Narakasura fiercely, but also **ultimately killed him** by joining hands with her husband! Mother of Narakasura who became very happy by this act of Lord Krishna and Satyabhamadevi killing her evil son, offered her prayers - "ನಮೋ ಭಗವತೇ ತುಭ್ಯಂ ವಾಸುದೇವಾಯ ವಿಷ್ಣವೇ...!! O lord! I'm not at all worried by the death of my cruel son, protection of the Dharma is of utmost important to me!" Later, she not only returned back the **Karna Kundalas and Vijayanti mala of Aditi devi**, which were abducted by Narakasura, at the feet of Lord Krishna but also submitted the son of Narakasura, **Bhagadatta** to Krishna. Lord Krishna who is king of all the fourteen worlds, who could have himself become the king instead appointed Bhagadatta as the king of Pragjotishapura and indicated that his **incarnation's main purpose** was to destroy the evil powers and not ruling the kingdom!

We all celebrate the festival of **Deepavali** in a grand manner. We must understand the purpose behind this celebration - We are really proud of our nation because of its various cultures and traditions. Women possess higher positions in our country. When Narakasura had **abducted** thousands of princesses of various kingdoms with the intention of manipulating them, Lord Krishna killed him and not only rescued them but also gave shelter to them by marrying all of them, when they all surrendered at his feet! By doing so, Lord Krishna himself highlighted the **importance** of level of respect women deserve in the society. If we properly understand this and celebrate the festival, then it would be really an effective one!

By this incident of Krishna killing Narakasura, he has given us few messages - 1) The military force of Mura itself was so strong that no one could easily penetrate out of it. Krishna entered the kingdom of

Pragjotishipura and defeated them easily. Similarly the bondage created by the **worldly matters** is much more stronger than that of Mura's military force. Only when God enters our heart and shower his blessings on us, we can get out this samsara and attain Salvation! 2) Satyabhamadevi, who is the representation of the Vedas, joined hands with Lord Krishna and killed Narakasura who is the representation of all the evil forces. By doing so, they have indicated that only when we earn the **proper knowledge of God** as described by the infinite Vedas and other ancient scriptures, we'll be able to destroy all the evil forces residing inside us!

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|| SANDESHA - 98 ||

| BANASURA KARA HANTAKAYA NAMAHA ! |

After killing Narakasura, **Lord Krishna** along with Satyabhamadevi went to the place of Lord Devendra and gave back the Karna kundalas and Vijayanti mala given by mother of Narakasura, to Aditidevi. Later when Krishna and Satyabhamadevi were wandering around in the Nandanavana in the heaven, the **Parijata tree** which was residing there, attracted Satyabhamadevi. With the intention of taking it to their home, Lord Krishna kept that tree on his **vehicle Garuda** and started towards his home, along with his wife. On seeing this, Devendra **ignorantly** stopped them and protested to give that precious tree to them. Even all other Devatas joined the hands of Devendra and waged war against supreme Lord Krishna himself! As soon as Krishna made a huge sound using his Bow, all of them lost their consciousness and fell down. They were all completely covered by heap of arrows within a short period of time! Immediately after regaining their consciousness, all of them **regretted for their mistake** of displaying their ego in front of Lord Krishna himself and surrendered themselves at his feet. On seeing Satyabhamadevi laughing at them for their ignorance behaviour, Devendra not only immensely offered his prayers to both of them and prayed them to forgive the mistake done by all of them, but also completely surrendered and offered all his wealth to them!

Meanwhile, the son of Vasudeva and Sutanu, **Poundrakavasudeva** who was very evil by nature, through his ignorance had developed immense enmity on Lord Krishna to such a level that he had thought himself as God! With the intention of becoming famous, he along with his army attacked the kingdom of Mathura overnight when Krishna was not there. But **unfortunately**, he had to return back empty handed after facing the defeat at the hands of Balarama and other Yadavas! Later, he foolishly sent a message to Lord Krishna through his servants - "You must remove your name Vasudeva, also you must not use the Srivatsa sign, Koustubha hara and Garuda as your vehicle in future!" Laughing at hearing this, Lord Krishna along with all the Yadavas himself **attacked** Poundrakavasudeva, who had made a non living golden Garuda as his vehicle and possessed fake weapons of Shanka, chakra, Gada and Padma and had even burnt his Vakshasthala to show off that he too possessed the sign of Srivatsa. By reflecting himself as if he was Supreme God himself, he attacked Lord Krishna and later not only got defeated but also got killed by him!

One of the son's of king Bali, **Banasura** who was the king of Shonitapura had become very egoistic and powerful with the blessings of Lord Shiva. His daughter **Ushe** had developed immense love on **Aniruddha**, who was the son of Pradyumna and grandson of Krishna. Using **mysterious** ways, Ushe had got Aniruddha near her with the help of her friend. On learning about this love affair, Banasura **mistook** Aniruddha himself as the culprit and ordered his servants to kill him. On learning about the all these happenings from Narada Maharshi, Krishna along with all the Yadavas themselves attacked the army of Banasura. **Lord Shiva** who had developed ignorance, along with all his servants joined the party of Banasura and started fighting against the Yadavas! After a fierce battle, Lord Krishna not only **easily** defeated Lord Shiva but also cut the thousands of hands of Banasura and made him very weak. Lord Shiva who could not withstand further on

seeing the **miserable condition** of his devotee Banasura, got back his senses and surrendered at the feet of Lord Krishna and also offered his prayers to him. Pleased by this, **kind hearted** Lord Krishna not only blessed Banasura, who was the greater grandson of **Prahallada**, but also accepted him as his devotee! Later the marriage of Aniruddha and Ushhe happened in a grand manner.

From all these incidents of teaching lessons to his devotees the Devatas, Lord Shiva and Banasura and then killing the evil Poundrakavasudeva, Lord Krishna has **highlighted** that one who develops ego and one who reflects himself as God will never be spared by him. By understanding the **supremacy of God** and our **wickedness**, we must sincerely surrender at his feet to obtain his blessings!

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|| SANDESHA - 99 ||

| THE FAMOUS RAJASUYA YAGA ! |

Srimad Bhagavata has beautifully described the daily routine of Lord Krishna - ಬ್ರಾಹ್ಮಣ ಮುಹೂರ್ತೇ ಉತ್ಥಾಯ..!! Supreme God who is free from all the ritual and prohibitions, himself followed his daily rituals of waking up in the Brahmi Muhurta, doing Sandhyavandana, penance and pooja of himself etc., with the **intention of guiding all the people!** When kind hearted god himself has shown us the path by which he'll be pleased, we must try to follow it as much as possible to obtain his blessings. One day, when Krishna was sitting in a meeting at his palace, a man came and informed him - "Lord Krishna, i'm a representative of **Ten thousand kings** who are jailed by Jarasandha. He has cruelly put them in his prisons and torturing them immensely. Also he has planned to sacrifice all of them in his Yaga which is being done to please Lord Shiva! Only you are capable of rescuing all those kings from this asura!" At the same time, Narada Maharshi came to the palace of Krishna and informed him about the invitation related to **Rajasuya yaga**, sent by Dharmaraja to him.

When Krishna entered Indraprastha, all the **Pandavas** grandly invited him and after offering their pranams and prayers to him, Dharmaraja told him- "For the welfare of everyone, i've decided to please you by doing the Rajasuya Yaga! For this, your blessings and guidance are very much necessary for us." Lord Krishna on hearing this, replied to him - "Yudhishtira! I heartfully welcome your purpose of doing this yaga. There is no selfishness involved in this, but without the killing of Jarasandha, this yaga cannot be started." Jarasandha was so strong that there was no one equal or greater than him, except **Bheemasena**. When Dharmaraja initially refused to send his brother to fight against the asura, Bheemasena himself came forward and bravely said - "ಪದಂ ಚತುರ್ಮುಖಸ್ಯ ವಾ ಸುಸಾಧ್ಯಮೇವ ಯತ್ನತಃ..!! With our sincere efforts and God's blessings, we can achieve anything in our life, according to our aptitude! We have God's blessings with us, now with our efforts we can surely earn all the wealth." After convincing Dharmaraja, Krishna took both Bheemasena and Arjuna along with him to the kingdom of Jarasandha. All the three took the form of a **brahmin** and entered the palace of Jarasandha. When Jarasandha approached them, Krishna introduced about themselves and ordered him to release all the thousands of Kings. When Jarasandha refused to do so and decided to fight with Bheemasena, fierce battle took place between them in which he ultimately got **killed** by Bhima! Later Krishna throned the son of Jarasandha, **Sahadeva** as the king of Magadha and released all the ten thousand kings and further made all the arrangements to them.

After this victory, all the three returned to Indraprastha where **Rajasuya Yaga** started in a grand manner. The **level of greatness** was so high that Lord Krishna himself not only was washing the feet of all the wise men who were attending the Yaga but also was removing all the leaves after all of them had their food! Even though he was supreme God himself, Lord Krishna did all this and **highlighted his kindness** on his true Devotees, the Pandavas! When **Bheeshmacharya**, who had the right knowledge about Lord Krishna,

suggested his name for receiving the **Agrapooja**, evil minded **Shishupala** opposed the decision citing the reason that Krishna was not a God but just a Gopalaka and started **reproaching** him unnecessarily. When this exceeded the level that was promised to the mother of Shishupala by him, Lord Krishna immediately **killed him** through his Sudarshana Chakara! Later all the Pandavas along with all other wise men, praised the unparalleled Greatness of Lord Krishna and did the Agrapooja to him. All the rituals like donation of wealth, food distribution, preachings of God etc. were done in the **highest level** by the Pandavas. In this manner, the Rajasuya yaga concluded **gloriously**. After immensely blessing the Pandavas and later killing the asuras named Salva and Dantavakra, Krishna went back to Dwaraka. From all these incidents, Krishna once again highlighted that his incarnation's main purpose was to destroy all the evil forces and protect all the good people. To **get rid off** all the evil forces residing inside us, we must again and again think of this unparalleled kindness of Lord Krishna on his devotees and surrender to him!

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|| SANDESHA - 100 ||

| THE STORY OF KUCHELA ! |

Kuchela (Sudhama) was the childhood friend of Lord Krishna. He was a true devotee of God, who would always think of him. He had got married to a very good woman who was also very much Dharmic in nature and had got many children from her. But his **financial condition** was so poor that all of them had to fast for many days continuously without getting anything to eat, they did not have proper clothes to wear, did not have proper house to live, etc. Even though he was leading such a miserable life, without thinking much about it, he was leading a **sacrificial life** by thinking of God always. One day, his wife who could not withstand the poverty further, with the intention of taking care of the family told Kuchela - "My loved one! **Supreme Lord Krishna** himself is your friend! You were only always telling that he was playing, eating and doing all other activities with you, when you were in the Gurukulam. Also you will be always telling that he is very kind hearted and shows immense love towards the brahmins! Please go to his place and get some wealth from him by telling him about our situation. Sri Krishna is not at all far away from us, he is staying in the town of **Dwaraka** itself, which is very much nearby to us! When he blesses and gives everything to everyone who surrenders at his feet sincerely, will he not give you the wealth? Please go and ask him!"

Kuchela, who had never thought of praying god for any temporary fruits, because of the immense insist from his wife, finally decided to meet Lord Krishna. Thinking that atleast because of this, he got an opportunity to see God, Kuchela thought he himself was a blessed one - "ಅಯಂ ಹಿ ಪರಮೋ ಲಾಭಃ ಉತ್ತಮಶ್ಲೋಕದರ್ಶನಮ್..!!" After his wife arranged for a **small amount of Avalakki** to Lord Krishna, Kuchela tied it in his cloth and then started towards Dwaraka. As soon as he reached the entrance of the palace of Lord Krishna, hundreds of thoughts came to his mind which led him to many confusions. On seeing his old friend standing at the door of his palace, **Kind hearted** Krishna who was with his wife Rukmindevi immediately came running towards him and welcomed him in a grand manner!

On seeing this **down to earth attitude** of Lord Krishna, all the people inside the palace got astonished and stood still for a moment! Later Lord Krishna himself did the padapooja of Kuchela and also offered him the **royal hospitality** in a great way. Kuchela on seeing all this, himself **got very embarrassed** and decided not to ask anything from Krishna. After discussing about all the childhood memories and other things, Kuchela decided to leave the place. On noticing his **favourite Avalakki** tied inside a piece of cloth of Kuchela, Lord Krishna himself took it from him and ate a small amount of it! Kuchela then offered his pranams and immediately left the place with much more embarrassment. By thinking about the **unparalleled greatness of God** and also about the questions he would receive from his wife when he goes back empty

handed, when Kuchela reached his place, he was **astonished** to see that the entire environment around his house had changed! His hut had turned into a mansion, his wife and children who had no proper clothes to wear earlier were wearing beautiful dresses along with many ornaments and also they all were enjoying by eating various kinds of foods! On seeing all this, Kuchela again and again offered his pranams and prayers with immense devotion to God, for his **unparallel kindness** on him! Later, even after getting so much wealth, Kuchela continued to lead his life in the same way as he was leading earlier and never ever forgot about God in his life!

This story of Kuchela again **highlights** the immense kindness of God on his true devotees and also indicates how a true devotee should lead his life! Kuchela neither got distracted by the poorness nor by richness and continued to live a simple life with the continuous thought of God! By understanding this, we must get inspired and lead a life in such a way that God will be pleased on us!

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|| SANDESHA - 101 ||

| THE ESSENCE OF SHRUTI GEETA ! |

After hearing about the beautiful story of Lord Krishna's incarnation, King Parikshita questioned Shukamuni - "How have all the **Shrutis** have described the greatness of supreme Lord Vishnu?" This question has been asked from very long time. The Son of Lord Brahma, **Sunandas** has answered to this question by describing the **Shruti Gita** - God can never be completely understood by anyone! We must understand each and everything related to God properly!

Srimadbhagavata highly condemns one : who earns improper knowledge about God and thinks himself as God. ನ ಚ ರಮಂತ್ಯಹೋ ಅಸದುಪಾಸನಯಾತ್ಮಹನೋ ಯದನುಶಯಾ ಭಮಂತ್ಯ - ಭವಾಃ ಕುಶರೀರಭೃತಃ...!!

If one thinks himself as God, that is the most scandalous thing which is equal to killing god himself! Killing God means earning the improper knowledge of God itself. Discussing about God, with half knowledge itself is like murdering him. Those who does so, will **neither enjoy** the good fruits in this world as well as in other worlds, after Death. Also, one who does enmity even in the true devotees of God, will also **face decadence**! One should never think about God with the intention of doing business in his name or getting some temporary fruits. By earning his proper knowledge and developing pure love towards him, one should do **devotion** in God!

Like how all the cows are drawn by tying them to a rope, **Supreme Lord Vishnu** who is solely responsible for the creation, destruction and all other activities of this world, controls each and every element of this universe, right from all the Devatas. In olden days, all the businessmen would travel around everywhere through boats, by taking all their wealth in those boats itself. But, without a proper sailor they would never be assured of neither their safety nor their wealth's safety! Similar is our situation, where we have filled our boat called 'Life' with various attractive temporary things like family, house, wealth etc. This boat, which is sailing in the ocean of Samsara is being continuously attacked by various enemies like Lust, anger, enviousness etc. Only with the **proper guidance** from our Gurus, we can get rid off this samsara and reach our main goal of attaining salvation!

Further, this Gita describes some more beautiful messages - Like a friend, God himself is **residing** inside our hearts from infinite time. But we are so **misfortune** to be totally unaware of this real fact! As a result, instead of trying to see God in ourselves itself, we are searching for him everywhere. A jeeva who is basically a **reflection** of an image called '**God**' himself, is very pure in its nature. But because of influence of various worldly matters, its **original nature** has been completely hidden! To overcome this ignorance and remain detached in this worldly matters to escape from the effects of various sins which are done in each

and every moment of our life, a jeeva must take refuge under a guide called ‘Vedas’ and follow the path shown by them, to obtain the blessings of God!

In this manner, Shruti Gita has beautifully described the greatness of God and also guides us to lead a life which can become an effective one. Only by **God’s blessings**, one can get the thought of learning about all these things. So, by understanding this, we must sincerely surrender to God through our Gurus to obtain his blessings!

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| EKADASHA SKANDA |

|| SRIMADBHAGAVATA SANDESHA - 102 ||

| THE BHAGAVATA DHARMA ! |

Srimad Bhagavata has further described about **various Dharmas** which should be implemented by the true devotees of God, to please him. We’ll just have a brief look into it - One who constantly thinks of God will never be afraid of anything. He must have a very **firm belief** that God surely protects him. This itself is the utmost **Bhagavata Dharma**! Lord Vishnu is highly termed as ‘**Vishwatma**’, which indicates that he is the one who is present in the Sky, Wind, Fire, Water, Earth etc.. By not thinking that he is present only in the idols of temples, one must try to see the **omnipresent God** everywhere and worship him to get his blessings. There are three kinds of Devotees - One who sees God everywhere and worships him is termed as ‘**Bhagavatottama**’ or the highest level devotee. One who does devotion in God and his devotees and shows disregard in haters and fails to show kindness on the needy, is termed as a ‘**mediate devotee**’. One who fails to see God, neither in the devotees of God nor everywhere and sees him only in idols and later forgets about him is termed as the ‘**devotee of lowest level**’!

Further guiding the knowledge seekers, Lord Vedavyasa says - “ಸರ್ವತೋ ಮನಸೋಽಸಂಗಂ ಆದೌ ಸಂಗಂ ಚ ಸಾಧುಷು..!! Even while physically living with all the worldly matters around ourselves, we must try not to develop **over attachment** over them, and instead develop **detachment** over them and attach ourselves to the God, who is present in them!” Srimad Bhagavata has never told us to sacrifice all the worldly matters and go to the forest! It has only told us to take **control over our minds** so that, it would not get attached towards these worldly pleasures! The term ‘**Vairagya**’ or sacrifice is not at all defined as leaving everything and going to forest to do penance. The exact meaning of it is that our minds should not become a **slave** to the desires that arise because of worldly pleasures! We generally show our immense love only on our beloved ones, our things like house, car etc. Even if we show a portion of such love towards God, we can surely **attain salvation**! But because of being jailed in this samsara, we not only fail to think about God but also fail to thank him for his immense kindness on us! Such is our tragedy!

To **highlight** very few other important Bhagavata Dharmas - 1) **Satsangaha** - Company of the wise people. 2) **Shouchaha** - Not expecting any fruits while doing our Karmas. 3) **Tapas** - Controlling our mind from the forbidden Karmas. 4) **Titikshaha** - Controlling the mind to remain unaffected even in the situation of sorrow. 5) **Mounaha** - Restricting our talks about worldly matters and speaking more about Supreme Lord Narayana’s greatness! 6) **Swadhyayaha** - Earning the proper knowledge of God as described in the Vedas and other ancient scriptures. 7) **Arjavaha** - Maintaining uniformity in one’s mind, speech and work. 8) **Brahmacharyaha** - Constantly thinking of God by developing detachment towards evil worldly matters which further pushes us inside the samsara. 8) **Sarvatraatmeshwaraanveekshaha** - Seeing the ‘Atma and Ishwar’ forms of God in all the jeevas. 9) **Kaivalyaha** - Thinking that God does not possess any attachment with the worldly matters. 10) **Vivaktam Shiksheth** - The thought of difference between God and Jeeva.

11) **Cheeravasanaha** - The thought of facing everything with this body itself, that God grants us according to our previous karmas. 12) **Pararthehaha** - Developing a wide mindset of doing Sadhane along with encouraging and supporting others also to do the Sadhane. 13) **Santosham yena kenachith** - Satisfied with whatever fruits God grants us according to our Karmas and efforts. 14) **Sathyaha** - Doing and wishing good to all the creatures of this universe. 15) **Manovakkayadandaha** - This precious human body granted by god to us should be properly utilized to please him by - Mind and speech to chant the prayers praising his greatness, hands and legs to do his various kinds of pooja, ears to hear about his greatness as described in scriptures, etc. and finally completely surrendering at his feet! By understanding all this, we must develop immense devotion in God to obtain his blessings!

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|| SANDESHA - 103 ||

| THE AVADHOOTA GITA ! |

After briefing about the Bhagavata Dharmas, Lord Vedavyasa has thrown light on the Dharmas of Kaliyuga - All the people of Krutayuga wish to be born in this Kaliyuga, because one can get the blessings of God easily by just chanting his name with devotion! ಕೃಷ್ಣವರ್ಣಂ ಕಲೌ ಕೃಷ್ಣಂ ಸಾಂಗೋಪಾಂಗಂ ಸಪಾರ್ಷದಮ್...!! All the people of Kaliyuga develop devotion in supreme Lord Krishna by learning about his greatness as described in the scriptures and worship him by an yagna called '**Namasankeertana**'. Later, all the Devatas right from Lord Brahmadeva prayed to Lord Krishna to return to his main abode 'Vaikunta' by ending his incarnation. Then as per the prayers of one of his truest devotee '**Uddhava**', Lord Krishna preaches his unparallel messages to the mankind. He says - "I have created eighty four lakh creatures in this universe out of which only **Human being** is very much liked by me! Because, only they have the capacity to **earn my knowledge** and attain me!" This concept is further explained by describing the conversation between King Yadu and a Avadhoota, which is famously known as the '**Avadhoota Gita**'.

Once **King Yadu** while wandering in his kingdom, saw an **Avadhoota** who was happily roaming around without thinking anything about the worldly matters and astonishingly asked him - "When all the people who have fallen in this samsara and are striving very hard to lead their lives, how come you are happily roaming around like an Elephant which is enjoying in the river? Tell me the **secret** of your happiness!" Avadhoota replied - "I have **twenty four gurus** from whom i've learnt many things. From each one of them, i've learnt a lesson!"

Saying so, he has briefly described about what all things he has learnt from all of them, to King Yadu - 1) **Mother Earth** - The quality of Forgiveness! 2) **Wind** - The quality of Detachment from the external situations! 3) **Sky** - The quality of not losing our own nature! 4) **Water** - The quality of maintaining a clean mind always! 5) **Fire** - The quality of remaining unaffected by either good or bad information we receive! 6) **Moon** - The knowledge of difference between a Jeeva and the body! 7) **Sun** - The quality of selflessness! 8) **Pigeon** - The quality of doing our duty without falling for any illusion! 9) **Python** - The quality of not putting efforts to earn the bread and living with whatever food we get! 10) **Ocean** - The quality of remaining unaffected by either situations of happiness or sadness! 11) **Moth** - The quality of not getting attracted towards the worldly pleasures! 12) **Honeybee** - The quality of not accumulating excess wealth! 13) **Elephant** - The quality of not misbehaving in the matter of women! 14) **Hunter** - The thought of getting the material comforts without putting much efforts! 15) **Deer** - The quality of controlling our sense organs (Ears)! 16) **Fish** - The quality of controlling sense organs (Mouth) 17) **Pingala (A prostitute)** - The quality of controlling the bad desires! 18) **Bird** - The quality of not desiring other's properties! 19) **Child** - The quality of not thinking too much about praising or disgracing! 20) **Bride** - The quality of being single instead of developing company with bad people! 21) **Archer** - The quality of focussing the mind on a single matter!

22) **Snake** - The quality of not striving hard to earn temporary worldly pleasures! 23) **Spider** - The thought of God who creates this universe and then puts it into his stomach itself! 24) **Barn worm** - The quality of constantly thinking of greatness of supreme Lord Vishnu!

By understanding all these lessons, we must try to implement them as much as possible to obtain the blessings of God and utilize this precious life to the fullest by not thinking about unnecessary things!

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|| SANDESHA - 104 ||

| THE TYPES OF KARMAAS ! |

After describing the Avadhoota Gita, Srimad Bhagavata has upheld the greatness of '**Prana Tattva**'. When Uddhava asked Lord Krishna to tell him about his favourite facts, Krishna replied - "....ವಾಯು ಮುಖ್ಯಾಧಿಯಾ ತೋಯೇ ದ್ರವ್ಯೈಸ್ತೋಯ ಪುರಸ್ಕೃತೈಃ!! **Mukhyaprana** (Lord Vayu) is the greatest among all the Devatas! This fact itself is very much liked to me! " All the Devatas right from Lord Rudra is the **subordinates** of Lord Vishnu through Lord Vayu himself, who resides in each and every living being and controls all the activities as per the **orders** of supreme Lord Vishnu! Lord Vayu himself has incarnated on this Earth in three forms to serve different incarnations of Lord Vishnu himself : **Hanuman** in Tretayuga to serve Lord Ramachandra, **Bheemasena** in Dwaparayuga to serve Lord Krishna and finally as **Vishwaguru Acharya Madhwa** in Kaliyuga to serve Lord Vedavyasa! We should be very proud for having got Acharya Madhwa himself as our moola Guru! So we must try to lead a life as shown by him as well as his utmost devotees (Devatas) who also incarnated on this Earth to mainly serve him, and make this precious life an effective one!

Further explaining the importance of Bhakti to Uddhava, Krishna has guided us to follow these **nine qualities** in our life, which are mainly controlled by the Satvaguna - The Vedas, Yagna, country, time, Karma, Birth, meditation, Mantras and Samskaras! Various forms of Yogas like Sankhyayoga, Svadhyaya, penance, sacrifice etc. have all gained importance only because of Bhakti! When Uddhava did not get satisfied inspite of hearing all this and further wished to get some more preachings from him, Lord Krishna explained to him about his Vibhooti forms, Varnashrama Dharmas, etc. and finally says - "ಜ್ಞಾನೀ ಪ್ರಿಯತಮೋತೋ ಮೇ ಜ್ಞಾನೇನಾಸೌ ಬಿಭೃತಿ ಮಾಮ್..!! A knowledgeable man is the one, whom i like the most! Through his right knowledge itself, he has wore me in his heart!"

Then various forms of Karmas are explained - Mainly there are two forms of Karmas : **Pravrutta Karma and Nivrutta Karma**. The Karma which is done with the expectation of fruits itself is a Pravrutta karma while the Nivrutta karma is a one which is done without any expectations! This concept is further explained by an example - We know both the birds, a swan and an hawk. The **hawk** in search of food, always goes to a place where all the garbage is dumped. Like how these hawks always desire for bad things like flesh of animals, etc., the Karmas which are done with the intention of satisfying the **bad desires** are termed as 'Pravrutta Karmas'. **Ignorant people** always involve themselves in doing such karmas! While, the **swan** always wishes to live in a place filled with clean water and always wanders and searches for its food inside that pond itself! In the same way, the **wise men** always wish to do those karmas by which **flawless supreme Lord Vishnu** would be pleased. Such Karmas are termed as 'nivrutta karmas'.

We all ignorant people show negligence towards God and involve ourselves in the worldly matters. But the wise men, who would have earned the proper knowledge of God by his blessings, **neglect** all the worldly matters and always think of God! Thinking that this body is just like any other machine, they just consume small amount of food which would be sufficient to do the Karmas that would please God. They completely forget about the worldly happenings and float in the ocean called '**Devotion of God**'! Such is the power of knowledge of God! By understanding the **importance** of Nivrutta Karma and devotion of God,

we must try to earn the proper knowledge of God to implement all these in our lives, to make it an effective one!

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|| SANDESHA - 105 ||

| THE IMPORTANCE OF NISHKAMA KARMA ! |

After explaining about the types of Karmas, kind hearted Lord Krishna further answers various questions of Uddhava and describes in detail about various qualities - 1) **Yama** - Non-violence, Truth, Brahmacharya, etc. should be always implemented irrespective of the time. This itself is the 'Yama'. 2) **Niyama** - Rituals like Sandhyavandana, fasting, meditation, etc. should always be followed in a particular time as described by the scriptures. This itself is the 'Niyama'. 3) **Shama** - Constant thinking of supreme Lord Vishnu itself is 'Shama'. 4) **Dama** - Controlling our own sense organs itself is 'Dama'. 5) **Titiksha** - The state of remaining constant by not getting affected by the situation of sadness itself is 'Titiksha'. 6) **Dhruti** - Sensory suppression itself is termed as 'Dhruti' or Courage. 7) **Dana** - Not hurting or giving trouble to others itself is termed as 'Dana'. 8) **Tapas** - The state of not wishing for the bad desires itself is 'Tapas'. 9) **Shourya** - Winning one's own mind by taking control over it, itself is 'Shourya'. 10) **Dakshina** - Preaching the knowledge earned to the knowledge seekers itself is the 'Dakshina' : ದಕ್ಷಿಣಾ ಜ್ಞಾನಸಂದೇಶಃ..!! 12) **Vidya** - The firm knowledge of God's supremeness itself is the real education or 'Vidya'. 13) **Hree** - Feeling shy to do those Karmas which are not described in the scriptures, itself is 'Hree'.

14) **Sorrow** - Wishing the worldly pleasures itself is 'sorrow'. 15) **Scholar** - One who properly learns about the drawbacks of worldly matters and then leads the life with the knowledge of God himself is a 'Scholar'. 16) **Fool** - One who develops over attachment in the worldly matters himself is a 'Fool'. 17) **Right path** - The Vedas which upheld the greatness of Supreme Lord Narayana, itself is a Path. 18) **Heaven** - Cultivating the Satvaguna itself is a 'heaven'. 19) **Hell** - Growing the ignorance itself is a hell. 20) **Relation** - Supreme Lord Krishna himself is our real 'relative'. 21) **House** - Our own body itself is a 'house'. 22) **Wealth** - Possessing the qualities of devotion in God and other related things itself is the real 'wealth'. 23) **Poor** - One who does not have satisfaction of enjoying the worldly pleasures, himself is a 'wretched' one. 24) **Jipuna** - One who does not have control over senses himself is a 'Jipuna'. 25) **Ishwara** - One who does not show interest in worldly matters, himself is a 'Ishwara'. 26) **Servant** - One who has become slave to all the worldly pleasures, himself is a 'servant'.

After explaining all these facts beautifully, Krishna tells Uddhava - "How much ever we speak about the right and wrong things, the list can never end! So **remember** one thing : Instead of thinking about the qualities and errors of various forms of Karmas, one must always indulge himself in doing Karmas which are assigned to him, with the thought of me always! This is the only **quality** which is expected by me from your side! Leaving this itself is the greatest error!" Further, Sri Krishna tells - "One who does all the Karmas only with the thought of worldly matters and not with the intention of pleasing me, will surely become a victim for disaster. When seen superficially, the fruits described by all the Vedas appears to be only heavenly things. But when the meanings are properly understood, it'll be very clear that the main fruits of the Vedas is '**Salvation**' itself! All the foolish and ignorant people misunderstand the meanings of these Vedas and indulge themselves in the Karmas which will give them only temporary fruits of worldly pleasures! But a wise man, who properly analyses the drawbacks of the worldly pleasures tries to understand the real meanings of those Vedas and then involves himself in doing the Karmas only with the intention of pleasing me!" By understanding all these aspects of **Nishkama Karma** and other facts, we must always sincerely try to implement them in our lives to obtain the blessings of God!

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|| SANDESHA - 106 ||

| LORD KRISHNA'S MAHAPRASTHANA ! |

After explaining about the importance of various qualities and Nishkama Karma to Uddhava, Lord Krishna explains the concept of a sajjana, by describing a beautiful story - "A brahmin who had faced lot of hurdles in his earlier stages of life to earn the wealth, later after realising about the drawbacks of all these worldly pleasures, took sanayasa. After learning about the greatness of the moralities of this precious human life through his experience, he gave a wonderful message to the mankind : 'ನಾಯಂ ಜನೋ ಮೇ ಸುಖದುಃಖಕೇತು...!! None of the people around me is responsible for both my happiness and sadness! Neither the Devatas nor the Navagrahas nor this body is responsible for the same. My mind itself is solely responsible for all the happiness or sorrow we experience! So whatever good things are done in this life is only because of getting the control of our mind!'" In this manner, the Bhikshu (Sanyasi) has given many more amazing messages to the mankind which is famously termed as '**Bhikshu Gita**'.

Further, Lord Krishna throws light on the concept of Gunatrayas: Satva, Rajas and Tamas - Always thinking of God, doing all the karmas with the sole intention of pleasing him, etc. are the features of one who possess the **Satvaguna**. Involving in the thought of both God as well as worldly matters, doing karmas with the intention of getting some temporary fruits, etc. are some features of a person who possess **Rajoguna**. Practising Adharma, always thinking bad for others, possessing selfish mind, etc. are some of the features of one who possess the **Tamoguna**! By understanding all this, we must try to develop Satvaguna as much as possible by doing all our karmas with the thought of God, so that he'll be pleased with us.

Then, to give an example of a person who would have completely involved himself only in the worldly matters, Sri Krishna describes a story of **King Puroorava** : "On getting attracted towards the beautiful form of an apsara named Urvashi, King Puroorava completely lost his consciousness and started following her everywhere. Even after spending many years with her, when his desire couldn't be satisfied, the king self reviewed about his life and gave a wonderful message - 'The knowledge, penance, sacrifice etc. everything goes wasted for one, who's mind is in the possession of an woman! After our death, all our bodies will either be eaten by the insects or become ashes after burning. But, even after knowing that this body is very temporary, we go on wasting our time of this **precious human life** by trying to satisfy the desires that arises from our body, because of the contact with the worldly matters! How foolish we are! Ultimately there is no difference between we humans and those insects!'" All these messages has been famously termed as '**Aila Gita**'. After hearing all these unparallel amazing preaching from Lord Krishna, Uddhava devotedly offered his infinite pranams to him and went to the holy abode of Badrinath to do penance, as per the orders of Lord Krishna.

Meanwhile, all the **Yadavas** who had been cursed by a rishi for disrespecting him, started acting in a bad manner very excessively, even after getting a warning from Lord Krishna himself! As a result of this behaviour, a **battle** started among themselves and ultimately all of them got killed. As always, Lord Krishna who remained unaffected by seeing all this went to a forest and sat near a tree to take rest. A **hunter**, who mistook Krishna's leg to a wooden piece, left his arrow at him and later on learning that it was Lord Krishna himself, repented immensely! However, **Flawless God**, who **does not possess** a worldly body like us, as per his wish of ending his incarnation, created this situation and thus left this world and went back to his holy abode of Vaikunta! All the Devatas right from Lord Brahma offered their prayers and praised his unparallel greatness immensely! Kind hearted Krishna has **assured** his special presence in this world to bless his devotees, who always think of him! By understanding about this **unparallel grace of Lord Krishna** on us, we must always think of him whole heartedly to get his blessings!

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| DWADASHA SKANDA |

|| SANDESHA - 107 ||

| LORD KALKI'S INCARNATION ! |

After broadly explaining the story of Lord Krishna, Srimad Bahagavata has further described about all the happenings that would occur in this **Kaliyuga**. To mention a few of them : Firstly, with the blessings of Lord Krishna, **king Parikshit** successfully faced evil '**Kali**' and prevented him from entering his kingdom. After this, the attack from Kali grew rapidly in this world. Further the stories of king maker Chanakya, king Ashoka, etc. and the situation of tense that has arose today in the borders of our country, has also been written thousands of years ago itself, by **supreme Lord Vedavyasa**!

Further, Lord Vedavyasa has described the **Dharmas** that will be followed in this Kaliyuga. To have a look at them briefly - 1) All the **right practises** of spiritual rituals vanishes and the doing of distorted practises will arise rapidly, everywhere! 2) The qualities like Truth, Dharma, Forgiveness, kindness etc. completely loses its value because of the influence of Kali. ವಿತ್ತಮೇವ ಕಲೌ ನೃಣಾಂ ಜನ್ಮಾಚಾರಗುಣೋದಯಃ..!! Respect is given only to those who possess money! The **role of money** will be so vital in this Kaliyuga that even to decide between the right and wrong, instead of our Laws, the influence of money matters! 3) For **marriages**, only wealth and mind between the boy and girl matters and all other qualities like Kula, Gotra, knowledge etc. will not at all be considered! Also, all the rituals related to marriage will be either done just for the sake of doing it or not at all done! (Today we can see Register marriages taking place in large numbers!) 4) For the sake of just **showing off** their beauty, everybody will be ready to spend even their entire day in front of the mirror! 5) In business matters, **cheating** is more often seen than sincerity. One who cheats more will be more richer! 6) Going to Picnic itself is considered as going to a pilgrimage! There will be no concept of going to a **pilgrimage** seperately! 7) All the people will be very much selfish and never bothers to take care of others! This list of all the disasters which are being followed by us today never ends! Kind hearted God, who knows everything has thus stressed on the **importance** of constantly thinking of him and chanting his name, which itself is considered as the main thing to get rid off the **infinite sins** done by us!

After lakhs of years, when all the Dharmas completely vanishes, **Lord Vishnu** himself incarnates in the form of **Lord Kalki**, as the son of a brahmin named Vishnuyashcha, in a place called Shambala. Along with his wife Goddess Lakhmidevi who takes a form of an **horse** and his son Lord Vayu, who takes a form of a **sword**, he completely destroys all the evil forces! Later when the yoga of Pushya come to Lord Chandra, Lord Surya and Bruhaspati, the **Krutayuga** starts. Without any clumsy, this changing of yuga from Kali to Kruta, happens just in a single night! Even the reason for this has been described here - ಅಥ ತೇಷಾಂ ಭವಿಷ್ಯಂತಿ ಮನಾಂಸಿ ವಿಷದಾಗಿ ವೈ..!! Just by the touch of the wind filled with blossoms coming from the body of supreme Lord Vishnu, the hearts of all the people would have become very pure. At that time itself, Krutayuga also called as '**Satyayuga**' starts immediately! So, there is no place for thinking about the Mahapralaya. After describing about Lord Kalki's incarnation, Srimad Bhagavata further throws light on the volume of different times like Lord Brahma's morning, the format of Mahapralaya, the thought of rythm (Laya chinatne) etc. By understanding this unparallel greatness of Lord Vishnu who himself is the **pioneer** of all the eras, we must surrender to him to get his blessings!

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|| SANDESHA - 108 ||

| THE MARKANDEYA UPAKHYANA ! |

The **message** of Srimad Bhagavata is nothing but the message of **Devotion** itself! By describing the stories of supreme Lord Vishnu's various incarnations like Kapila, Narasimha, Ramachanda, Krishna etc. and also the stories of his numerous devotees, Srimad Bhagavata itself is an encyclopedia of '**Tattvagnaana**' or Philosophy! On hearing all these stories from **Shukamuni** continuously for seven days, **King Parikshita** had developed immense devotion in God to such a level that he had got completely rid off his attachment over his eternal body and also had overcome the fear of death! He bravely said- "Now, i'm not all afraid of Takshaka! Through his poison, he can only destroy my eternal body, but nothing can be done to my soul. Ignorance and improper knowledge themselves are **more poisonous** to this soul than any other external poisons! You have helped me to overcome these by your amazing preachings!" Saying so, he offered his **infinite pranams** to Shukamuni, who then left that place. Immediately, **Takshaka** entered there in the form of a small insect. On thinking that this small insect could do nothing to him, when King Parikshit took it in his hands, the Takshaka immediately took his original form of a snake and bite him! The powerful poison immediately **killed king Parikshit** and his body turned into ashes. Later, on seeing his soul reaching the feet of Lord Vishnu, all the Devatas showered flowers on him! Finally after hearing this amazing work of Supreme Lord Vedavyasa himself - 'Srimad Bhagavata', King Parikshita **attained salvation** itself!

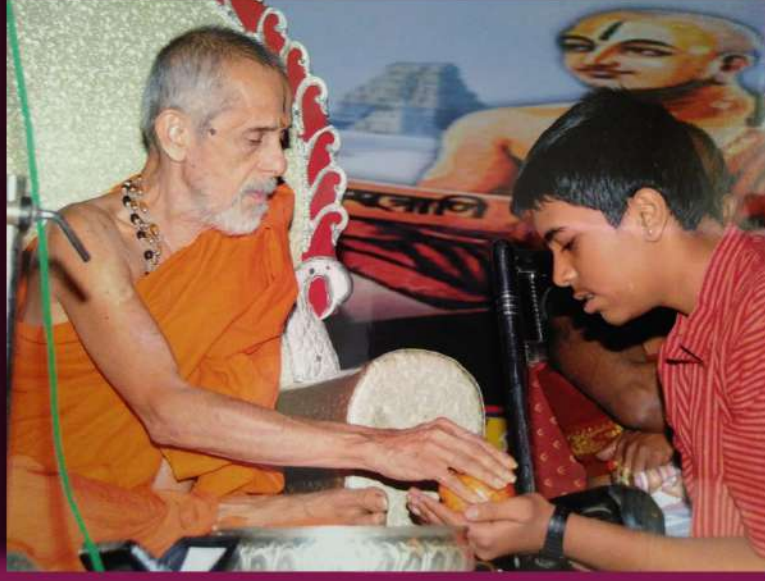
Ultimately, Srimad Bhagavata has described the story of **Markandeya rishi** - Markandeya rishi had sacrificed everything and was meditating on supreme Lord Narayana, with the sole intention of obtaining his blessings. Purposefully to distract him, all the Devatas sent various attractions in front of him, but Markandeya rishi who was meditating with a firm thought of God, **did not lose his focus on God!** Pleased by seeing this immense devotion of the rishi, **Nara-Narayana** who were in the holy abode of Badrinath, appeared in front of him. Astonished on seeing this, the rishi offered his pranams and prayers to them. Further pleased by this, when supreme God himself told him to ask for a boon, the rishi replied - "When you yourself are standing in front of me, what else is greater than this? Bless me to develop **more devotion** in you! Also, please show me your business of illusion and wonderful power!"

One fine day the entire environment of the world changed and indicated that a **huge flood (Mahapralaya)** would take place. Heavy rains, land falls, meteor shower etc. occurred everywhere to such a level that the entire world got completely covered with water! Only Markandeya rishi was floating in this water! After withstanding various troubles from the huge waves and all the animals in the water for many years, Markandeya rishi could see a **small child**, who was none other than Lord Krishna himself, sleeping on a banyan leaf! ಕರಾರವಿಂದೇನ ಪದಾರವಿಂದಂ ಮುಖಾರವಿಂದೇ ವಿನಿವೇಶಯಂತಂ..!! Out of curiosity, when the rishi hardly swam near the child to see who he was, because of the inhaling of breathe from the child, he entered its stomach! There he could see an **amazing world** itself : The mountains, rivers, forests, etc. After wandering everywhere, again because of the exhaling of breathe from that child, the rishi fell out of its stomach. When he tried to go back near the child to get that **amazing experience** which he had got earlier, neither the leaf nor the child was there! He was back in his ashrama only! Thinking about this **unparallel greatness of God**, Markandeya rishi later not only **overcame his untimely death** with the blessings of Lord Shiva, but also obtained the special blessings of Lord Vishnu!

In this manner, Srimad Bhagavata has **highly upheld** the greatness of Supreme Lord Vishnu and his **immense kindness** on his true devotees. Let Lord Krishna be pleased with this small seva and bless one and all!

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ಗುರು ಕರುಣವಾಹೋದು ಪರಮ ದುರ್ಲಭವಯ್ಯಾ - ಹರಿದಾಸರು



Anirudh SV is a Research Scholar at R.V. College of Engineering, with a wide range of interest in Maadhwa Philosophy, Singing, Active Participation as Volunteer in various Maadhwa forums etc. He has his own page in facebook named **'TATTVA GNAANA SUDHE'** with the purpose of doing a small seva of spreading the Madhwa Philosophy. This is his third book that is being offered at the lotus feet of Lord Krishna, after his recent works **'MADHWA PARAMPARE (A Brief)'** and **'AGAMYA MAHIMA'** Hopefully with the blessings of Hari-Vayu-Gurugalu and with everyone, this work grows to a greater height in the future.

Sri Vishweshwara Teertha antargata Raghavendra guru antargata
Bhavi Sameera Vadiraja - Acharya Madhwa antargata
Lakshmi Hayagreeva Preetyartam